MONTGOMERYSHIRE COLLECTIONS.

COLLECTIONS

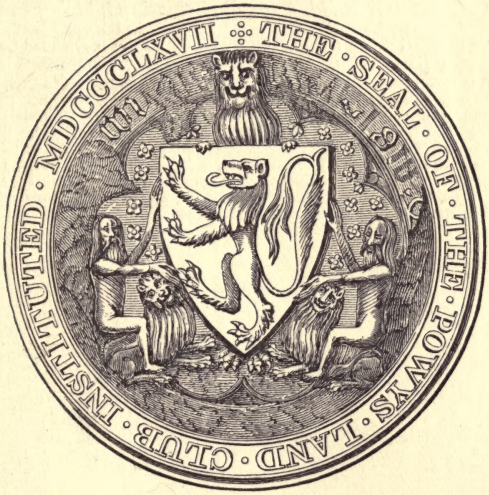
HISTORICAL & ARCHÆOLOGICAL

RELATING TO

MONTGOMERYSHIRE

AND ITS BORDERS.

ISSUED BY THE POWYS-LAND CLUB FOR THE USE OF ITS MEMBERS.



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"*A Ruddy Lion Ramping in Gold.*"

The Seal of Sir Edward de Cherleton, Lord of Powys, appended to a Charter dated 6th July, 7 Henry V (1418), is adopted as the Seal of the Powys-land Club. This remarkable Seal is not quite perfect, the edge having been splintered away, and the figure in the place of the crest having lost its head, which the engraver has supplied. It appears to have been a round seal, surrounded by an inscription, probably "*Sigillum Edwardi de Cherleton, Domini Powisie*", of which only the "g" in the word Sigillum, and "wi" in the word Powisie, now remain. The shield in the centre is charged with the *red lion* of Powys—a *lion rampant*—and is probably held up by another lion rampant standing on its hind legs behind the shield, which is clasped by his fore paws. The side supporters, or rather ornamental figures (for it is said that supporters, in the present heraldic sense of the word, were unknown at that period), are wild men sitting astride of lions couchant.—*Mont. Coll.*, vol. vi, p. 293.

MONTGOMERYSHIRE COLLECTIONS.

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Authors alone are responsible for facts and opinions.

PROPOSAL *for a Society or Club, to be called the "*POWYSLAND CLUB*", for the Collecting and Printing, for the use of its Members, of the Historical, Ecclesiastical, Genealogical, Topographical, and Literary Remains of Montgomeryshire.*

It has occurred to more than one gentleman connected with Montgomeryshire, that it would be desirable to begin an historical and archæological collection for that county.

The county is rich in the remains of former ages, comprising, as it does, nearly the whole of the ancient principality of Upper Powys and other scenes of historic interest, and yet having hitherto formed a portion of Wales which has not received its due proportion of archæological illustration.

A county history is the great desideratum ; but, considering the various qualifications required, in one person, to enable him to write a good county history, who is equal to such a herculean task ?

It is seldom that in one mind can be found " the profundity of knowledge, the patient and laborious research, the skill in generalisation, the talent for detail, the aptitude for so many and so varied investigations, the taste, energy, and self-sacrificing zeal which can carry such labour to a successful termination". The late Walter Davies was the only man that could be named who would have been equal to the undertaking.

In the absence, however, of a county history, an historical and archæological collection for this county, specifically, would be both valuable and interesting.

It would be, in fact, to carry out, but in more detail, with reference to Montgomeryshire, the idea which was broached with respect to all the counties of Wales in the first number of the *Archæologia Cambrensis* in the article—" On the Study and Preservation of National Antiquities."

Following the model of other societies, it is proposed that the collection should include—

1. A *Monasticon*, or a record of all monastic remains, whether buildings, tombs, inscriptions, utensils, seals, etc. [This is already in progress, but, from the few religious houses in the county, will not be extensive.]

2. An *Ecclesiasticon*, or a similar record of all that relates to parochial churches and chapels, whether of the established church, or of any description, etc., and of all objects, such as tombs, crosses, etc., connected with them.

3. A *Castellarium*, a similar record of castellated remains.

4. A *Mansionarium*, a similar collection relating to all ancient manor-houses, mansions, and houses of a certain degree of importance, and to their collected remains.

5. A *Villare* and *Parochiale*, applying to all buildings and remains of towns, villages, parishes, etc., including all public civil buildings, etc.

6. A *Chartularium*, including as complete an account as practicable of all ancient documents referring to the five preceding classes. The manorial history of the county may be illustrated, and the public record office, and the muniment rooms of the magnates of the county, would form an almost inexhaustible source of information under this division. It would be proposed to print the original documents *in extenso* where thought of sufficient interest.

7. An *Obituarium*, containing notices of pedigrees of ancient families, notices of celebrated characters, and collections of all that relates to the public and private life of all classes who are or have been inhabitants of the district.

8. An *Ordinary of Arms*, containing authentic copies of all existing remains of mediæval heraldry.—Drawings and copies of inscriptions, etc., on church windows, monuments, etc.

9. The collecting and printing of MS. collections connected with the district, or throwing any light on any of the families of the county.

10. An *Itinerarium*. Notices, plans, and surveys of all British, Roman, or other ancient roads or ways, etc.

11. Traditions, customs, folk-lore, ballads, etc.

Various topographical and genealogical articles have appeared in publications that are rare and difficult of access, and it would be proposed to reprint such of these articles as may be thought of sufficient interest and value, with such additions as may be procurable ; for instance, the topographical accounts of the parishes of Meifod and Llanwnog, which appeared in the *Cambrian Quarterly Review*, and the accounts of Garthbeibio, Llangadfan, and Llanerfyl, and of Llanymynech, that appeared upwards of seventy years ago in the *Cambrian Register*, and such like. They would form models for topographical accounts of other parishes.

And it is wished to reprint several of the articles bearing upon Montgomeryshire which have already appeared in the *Archæologia Cambrensis*.

It is proposed to print the articles in parts, as they are available, and not necessarily in any particular classified order; but when a sufficient number to form a volume is collected, to make the information easily accessible by means of copious *Indices*.

It is also proposed to make such arrangements with the Cambrian Archæological Association as may be found mutually desirable and practicable. It is the wish of the promoters of the scheme to form the closest connection with that well-tried and excellent institution. The scheme may appear extensive, but it will be carried out only so far as materials offer and opportunity occurs.

This preliminary proposal was circulated in the first instance in influential quarters, with the view of testing how far the scheme met with approval, and was likely to be supported.

The collection of two or three facts—in themselves, and, while separate, comparatively unimportant—will often be found to throw light on each other, and will not unfrequently lead to the clearing up of doubtful points, or the discovery of error. In this light all may assist in the work proposed.

"If a collection could be made," said the late Dr. Stanley, Bishop of Norwich, "of all the isolated and floating facts connected with the various branches of topographical knowledge, it is obvious that thus an invaluable body of information and ample store of materials might be amassed, of the utmost importance to the traveller, the antiquarian, the man of science, and the naturalist." The custodian of almost every parochial register may find in it much that is novel and valuable. Any accurate observer who will transcribe all the monumental inscriptions in any church, chapel, or burial place, would render valuable service.

If it meet with support, it is intended to organise and carry it on with the honorary assistance of such as consent to associate themselves for the purpose; the necessary funds for printing and illustrating, transcribing public records, etc., being provided by the subscription of the members. But it is by no means wished to restrict the Association to pecuniary subscribers only. Contributors of archæological information of all the descriptions before indicated would be welcomed as members with as much warmth as pecuniary subscribers.

MORRIS C. JONES,
20, Abercromby Square, Liverpool.
T. O. MORGAN,
Aberystwith.
} *Hon. Secs. pro tem.*

1*st March* 1867.

The Club was constituted on the 1st October 1867; when Part I was issued to the members, and the following Rules adopted:—

ORIGINAL LAWS OF THE POWYS-LAND CLUB.

I. The Club shall consist of not more than one hundred members.

II. The Council shall consist of the following persons, in whom the management of the Club shall be vested, that is to say, the President, Vice-Presidents, the Secretaries, Treasurer, and twelve other Members.

III. That the following gentlemen shall constitute the first Officers and Council of the Club:—

President—The Earl of Powis.

Vice-Presidents—The Lord Sudeley; The Bishop of St. Asaph; Sir Watkin Williams Wynn, Bart.

Council.

Rev. E. L. Barnwell, M.A., Melksham, Wilts.

Edmund Buckley, Esq., M.P., Plas Dinas.

J. Pryce Drew, Esq., M.A., Milford, Newtown.

Rev. John Edwards, M.A., Rectory, Newtown.

Ven. Archdeacon Ffoulkes, M.A., Rectory, Llandyssil.

Abraham Howell, Esq., Rhiewport, Welshpool.

David Howell, Esq., Dolguog, Machynlleth.

Rev. D. Phillips Lewis, M.A., Vicarage, Guilsfield.

Hon. Chas. Hanbury Tracy, M.P., Gregynog, Newtown.

Pryce Buckley Williames, Esq., Pennant, Welshpool.

Rev. Robert Williams, M.A., Rectory, Llanfyllin.

C. W. Williams Wynn, Esq., M.P., Coed-y-Maen, Welshpool.

Hon. Treasurer—Thomas Bowen, Esq. (Messrs. Beck & Co.), Welshpool.

Hon. Secretaries—Morris C. Jones, Esq., 20, Abercromby Square, Liverpool (and Gungrog, Welshpool); T. O. Morgan, Esq., Aberystwith (and Lincoln's Inn).

IV. A General Meeting of the Members shall be held annually, on the first day of the month of October, or on a day soon after, and at such place as the Council shall appoint. And the President, or in his absence one of the Vice-Presidents, shall have power to call Extraordinary General Meetings, on giving, through the Secretaries, a fortnight's notice to the Members.

V. The Council shall be elected at a General Meeting, to continue in office for three years, and be capable of re-election.

VI. The names of the Members proposed to be elected into the Council shall be transmitted by the proposers to the Secretaries one fortnight before the General Meetings; and notice of the persons so proposed shall be forwarded by the Secretaries to all the Members.

VII. At the General Meeting votes for the election of the Council may be given either personally or *by letter* addressed to the Secretaries; but no Member shall be entitled to vote at a General Meeting whose subscription is in arrear.

VIII. Any vacancy which may occur in the Council, or in the offices of Secretaries or Treasurer, shall be provisionally filled up by the Council.

IX. Those gentlemen who have assented or do assent to these rules, and have signified their wish to become Members, shall be deemed original Members of the Society.

X. Subsequent Members may be elected by ballot at any one of the General Meetings, according to priority of application, upon being proposed in writing by two existing Members. One black ball in five shall exclude.

XI. The subscription of each Member shall be paid in advance to the Treasurer, and shall be as follows:—Any Member of the Cambrian Archæological Association who shall become an *original* Member of the Club shall pay the annual sum of half a guinea; any other Member of the Club shall pay the annual sum of one guinea. If any Member's subscription shall be in arrear for two years, and he shall neglect to pay his subscription after being reminded by the Treasurer, he shall be regarded as having ceased to be a Member of the Club.

XII. The Council may elect as an Honorary Member any gentleman contributing papers or information such as shall, in their judgment, be in furtherance of the objects of the Club.

XIII. The objects of the Club shall be carried out with the honorary assistance of the Members, and the funds of the Club shall be disbursed in printing and illustrating such information as shall be contributed by the Members, searching for and transcribing public records, etc., and the necessary expenses of the Club.

XIV. The members are earnestly invited to contribute articles and information; and contributors of papers shall be entitled to twelve copies of such articles.

XV. Every member not in arrear of his annual subscription will be entitled to one copy of every publication of the Club, to be delivered as soon as it shall be completed.

XVI. The Council shall determine what numbers of each publication shall be printed, and the copies over and above those required for the Members shall be sold to the public at such time and price as may be fixed by the Council, and the proceeds to be carried to the account of the Club.

XVII. No alteration shall be made in these Laws, except at an Anniversary Meeting; one month's notice of any proposed alteration to be communicated, in writing, to the Secretaries.

At the Second Annual Meeting of the Club, held on the 11th of October 1869, in pursuance of notice given in accordance with Rule XVII, the following alterations in the Laws were made—

"That the Club shall be extended, and shall consist of not more than two hundred members; all additional Members shall pay the annual subscription of one guinea.

"That the Secretary shall be at liberty to admit Members up to that enlarged limit; the applicants for membership who are willing to pay the back subscriptions so as to entitle them to the back parts of the publication of the Club, to have the preference.

"That the Secretaries shall also be at liberty to admit new Members to supply vacancies caused by death, or resignation, or non-payment of subscriptions.

"That the following words be added to Rule XII: 'or may present him with a copy of all or any of the publications of the Club'."

At the Seventh Annual Meeting of the Powys-land Club, held on the 5th of October 1874, the following were adopted as

"THE RULES OF THE POWYS-LAND MUSEUM AND LIBRARY."

1. The Museum and Library shall be open to the public on Saturdays and Mondays from Ten to Four, on payment by each person of an admission fee of threepence: except on the last Saturday in each month, when from One to Four it shall be open free of charge.

2. An annual family subscription of 5s. shall admit all the members of a family subscribing, and an annual subscription of 2s. 6d. shall admit an individual person, on Saturdays and Mondays, for one year.

3. The Members of the Powys-land Club shall have access to the Museum and Library every day (Sundays excepted) from Ten to Four, and also shall have the privilege of taking therein any personal friends accompanying them, on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays.

4. That donors to the Building Fund, to the amount of 10s. or upwards, and their families, shall be admitted free on Saturdays and Mondays, for one year, from the opening of the Museum and Library.

5. Each person visiting the Museum and Library shall be required to enter his or her name in a Visitors' book, to be provided for that purpose.

6. No article or book shall on any account be removed from the Museum and Library, without the special permission of the Committee.

At the Eighth Annual Meeting of the Powys-land Club, held on the 4th of October 1875, in pursuance of notice given in accordance with Rule XVII, an alteration in the laws was made by the adoption of the following additional rule:—

"XVIII. That no dividend, gift, division, or bonus in money shall be made unto or between any of the Members of the Powys-land Club, or of the said Museum or Library, or any other person whatsoever."

And the following alteration and addition to the Rules of the Powys-land Museum and Library were made.

Rule I was altered to read thus :—

"1. That the public shall be admitted to the Museum every week day, from Ten to Four, on the payment of an admission fee of Threepence, except when the Council shall otherwise determine; and except on the last Saturday in each month, when from One to Four it shall be opened free of charge."

The following additional Rule was adopted :—

"That the Books in the Library shall be open gratuitously to the public, subject to such regulations as shall be made by the Council."

(Signed) POWIS — *President.*
D. P. LEWIS. A. HOWELL. HENRY P. FFOULKES. — *Three Members of the Council.*
R. E. JONES. — *A Member of the Powys-land Club.*
MORRIS CHAS. JONES. WILLIAM V. LLOYD. — *Honorary Secretaries.*

"I hereby certify that this Society is entitled to the benefit of the Act 6 and 7 Vict., cap. 36, entituled, 'An Act to exempt from County, Borough, Parochial, and other Local Rates, Lands and Buildings occupied by Scientific, or Literary Societies.'

(Signed) "J. M. LUDLOW,
"*Chief Registrar of Friendly Societies,*

"The Barrister appointed to certify the Rules of Savings Banks, for the Central Office, London, 19th November 1875."

LIST OF THE MEMBERS

OF THE

POWYS-LAND CLUB.

September 30, 1883.

---

*Those marked * have contributed papers to the "Montgomeryshire Collections".*

Those marked † are Donors of Objects to the Powys-land Museum and Library.

Those marked ‡ have exhibited articles of interest at the Annual Meeting.

†Adnitt, W. H., Esq., Lystonville, Shrewsbury

Babington, Charles C., Esq., F.S.A., 5, Brookside, Cambridge
*†Barrett, Thomas Brettell, Esq., Welshpool
*†Barnwell, Rev. E. L., M.A., Melksham, Wilts
Bates, J. Cadwallader, Esq., Heddon Banks, Wylam-on-Tyne
Beattie, John, Esq., Shortwood, Teddington Park, Middlesex (*deceased*)
Beattie, Joseph, Esq., 242, Hagley Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham
‡Beck, Peter Arthur, Esq., Trelydan Hall, Welshpool (*Hon. Treasurer*)
†‡Bennett, Nicholas, Esq., Glanyrafon, Caersws
†Black, Adam William, Esq., 28, York Place, Edinburgh
Bolding, George Frederick, Esq., 204, Hagley Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham
*Bridgeman, Hon. and Rev. Canon, M.A., The Hall, Wigan
Bridgeman, Hon. and Rev. J. R. O., M.A., Rectory, Weston-under-Lyziard, Shifnal
Brisco, Wastel, Esq., Southcott, Reading
‡Buckley, Sir Edmund, Bart., Plas Dinas, Dinas Mawddwy

*Clark, George Thomas, Esq., Dowlais House, Dowlais
Cokayne, George E., Esq., M.A.Oxon., F.S.A., *Norroy King of Arms*, College of Arms, London
†Curling, Mrs., Brookland Hall, Welshpool

‡Davies, Henry, Esq., Town Clerk, Oswestry
*†Davies, Rev. Prebendary, M.A., Moor Court, Kington, Herefordshire (*deceased*)
Davies, John D., Esq., Llanidloes
†‡Davies, John Pryce, Esq., Bronfelin, Caersws
Dugdale, John, Esq., Llwyn, Llanfyllin

Edwards, Rev. Griffith, M.A., Rectory, Llangadfan, Welshpool

*Edwards, Rev. Canon Wynne, Rectory, Llanrhaiadr-yn-Kinmerch, Denbighshire
†‡Edye, Thomas, Esq., 5, St. Paul's Road, Camden Square, London (*deceased*)
†Evans, David Williams, Esq., Clifton, Nottingham, and Glascoed, Llansantffraid
‡Evans, Rev. Edward, M.A., Rectory, Llanfihangel-yn-Nghwnfa, Llanfyllin, Oswestry
†Evans, Edward, Esq., Bronwylfa, Wrexham
†‡Evans, Edward Bickerton, Esq., Whitbourne Hall, Worcester
†‡Evans, John, Esq., LL.D., F.R.S., Nash Mills, Hemel Hempsted
†Evans, John Hilditch, Esq., Bryn Issa, Pershore, Worcestershire
†Evans, Joseph, Esq., Hurst House, Prescot (*two copies*)
Eyre, Rev. W., St. Beuno's College, St. Asaph

†‡Fardo, George, Esq., Sub-Comptroller, Post Office, Liverpool
Ffoulkes, Ven. Archdeacon, M.A., Rectory, Whittington, Salop
Ffoulkes, W. Wynne, Esq., Old Northgate House, Chester
†‡Field, Rev. Augustus, M.A., Vicarage, Pool Quay, Welshpool
*†‡Fisher, William, Esq., Maesfron, Welshpool
Foljambe, C. S. G., Esq., M.P., Cocklode, Ollerton

†‡Gillart, Richard, Esq., Llynlloed, Machynlleth

Harlech, The Lord, Brogyntyn, Oswestry (*Vice-President*)
†Harrison, George Devereux, Esq., Fronllwyd, Welshpool
Harrison, Colonel John Pryce, 1, Seagrave Place, Cheltenham
Harrison, Robert John, Esq., Caerhowel, Montgomery
Hayman, Rev. Canon Samuel, M.A., Grange-Erin, Douglas, Cork
Herbert, Colonel Geo. Edward, Upper Helmsley Hall, Yorkshire, and Glanhafren, Newtown, Montgomeryshire
Herbert, John Maurice, Esq., Rocklands, Ross (*deceased*)
‡Heyward, Colonel John Heyward, Crosswood, Guilsfield
*†‡Hill, Rev. J. E., M.A., Vicarage, Welshpool
†Hilton, Edwin, Esq., Glynhirieth, Llanfair Caereinion, and Oak Bank, Fallowfield, Manchester
*‡Howell, Abraham, Esq., Rhiewport, Berriew, Montgomeryshire
*Howell, David, Esq., Dolguog, Machynlleth
Hughes, H. R., Esq., Kinmel, St. Asaph
†Hurst, Robert, Esq., Borough Surveyor, Welshpool
Hutchings, Lewis, Esq., Welshpool

Inner Temple Library, London (J. Pickering, Esq., Librarian)

Jehu, Richard Esq., 21, Cloudesley Street, Islington, London
†Jones, Charles, Esq., Salop Road, Welshpool
*†Jones, Edward, Esq., Town Clerk, Welshpool
†Jones, Edward Maurice, Esq., Westwood, Welshpool
Jones, John, Esq., Bellan House, Oswestry

*Jones, John, Esq., Staff Commander, R.N., F.R.G.S., Blue Bell, near Welshpool
*†‡Jones, Morris Charles, Esq., F.S.A., F.S.A.Scot., Gungrog, Welshpool (*Honorary Secretary*)
†‡Jones, Morris Paterson, Esq., Heatherlea, 7, Holly Road, Fairfield, Liverpool
‡Jones, Pryce, Esq., Dolerw, Newtown
†Jones, Richard Edward, Esq., Cefn Bryntalch, Abermule, Mont.
Jones, T. Parry, Esq., Park House, Newtown
*†Jones, T. Simpson, Esq., M.A., 6, Stone Buildings, Lincoln's Inn, and Gungrog, Welshpool
*Jones, William, Esq., Mount Pleasant, Over, Winsford

Kynaston, Rev. W. C. E., M.A., Hardwicke Hall, Ellesmere

‡Londonderry, The Marquis of, K.P., Plas Machynlleth (*Vice-President*)
*‡Leighton, Stanley, Esq., M.P., Sweeney Hall, Oswestry
†‡Lewis, Rev. David Phillips, M.A., Rectory, Llandrinio
Lewis, Lewis, Esq., Newtown Hall, Newtown
†Lewis, Rev. John, M.A., Vicarage, Ford, Salop
Lewis, Samuel, Esq., Holborn Bars, London
Lewis, Rev. T. Wolseley, M.A., Garth Garmon, Cheltenham
Liverpool Free Public Library (Peter Cowell, Esq., Chief Librarian)
*‡Lloyd, J. Y. W., Esq., M.A., Clochfaen, Llanidloes
Lloyd, Henry, Esq., Pentreheilin, Llanymynech, R.S.O., and Dolobran, Meifod
*†Lloyd, Howell William, Esq., 19, Hogarth Road, South Kensington, W.
Lloyd, Mrs. Richard H., Tayles Hill, Ewell, Surrey
†Lloyd, Sampson S., Esq., Fyne Court, Bromfield, Bridgewater, and Dolobran, Meifod
*†‡Lloyd, Rev. W. Valentine, R.N., F.R.G.S., Haselbech Rectory, Northampton (*Honorary Secretary*)
†Lovell, Mrs., Llanerchydol, Welshpool

Marsh, Miss Mary, Tybrith, Carno
†Matthews, Rev. Prebendary, M.A., Rectory, Llandisilio, Oswestry
Mickleburgh, John, Esq., Montgomery
Miller, Samuel, Esq., The Court, Abermule, Montgomeryshire
‡Mirehouse, Rev. John, M.A., Colsterworth Rectory, Grantham
‡Morgan, Charles, Esq., Bidlington House, Steyning, Sussex
Morgan, David, Esq., High Street, Welshpool
Morgan, Edward, Esq., Machynlleth
Morgan, George, Esq., The Fron, Newtown
†Morris, Joseph Pugh, Esq., Redholm, Salop Road, Welshpool
‡Mytton, Devereux Herbert, Esq., Garth, Welshpool
Mytton, Miss, Severn Street, Welshpool

Northumberland, His Grace the Duke of, Alnwick Castle, Northumberland
*†Newill, Thomas, Esq., Powis Castle Park, Welshpool
Nixon, Edward, Esq., Savile House, Methley, Leeds

Oswestry and Welshpool Naturalist Field Club and Archæological Society (Rev. O. W. Fielden, Frankton Rectory, Oswestry, *Sec.*)
†Owen, Arthur Charles Humphreys, Glansevern, Garthmyl, Mont.
†Owen, D. C. Lloyd, Esq., F.R.C.S., 51, Newhall Street, and Penbryn, Rotton Park Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham
†Owen, David Pryce, Esq., Broad Street, Welshpool
*†Owen, Rev. Elias, M.A., Efenechtyd Rectory, Ruthin
†Owen, Rev. R. Trevor, M.A., Vicarage, Llangedwyn
Owen, Rev. Thomas Ketley, Wellington, Salop
*†Owen, T. Morgan, Esq., M.A., Bronwylfa, Rhyl

*†‡Powis, The Earl of, Powis Castle, Welshpool (*President*)
†‡Parker, Rev. F. W., M.A., Rectory, Montgomery
†‡Parker, W. T., Esq., Traethllawn, Welshpool
‡Parry, Love Jones, Esq., M.P., F.S.A., Madryn Castle, Pwllheli
‡Perrott, Robert Simcocks, Esq., Bronhyddon, Llansantffraid
Phillimore, E. G. B., Esq., Oldhouse, Hammersmith Road, London, W.
Powell, Evan, Esq., Broomcliffe, Llanidloes
†‡Powell, Samuel, Esq., Ivy House, Welshpool
Powys, Bransby William, Esq., 1, Lincoln's Inn Fields, London.
†Pritchard, W. E. Gilbertson, Esq., Ceniarth, Machynlleth
Price, Mrs., Marrington Hall, Chirbury, Salop
‡Pryce, Mrs. Gunley, Chirbury, Shropshire
†Pryce, Edward S. Mostyn, Esq., Machen House, near Newport, Monmouthshire
†‡Pryce, Elijah, Esq., Trederwen House, Llansantffraid, Oswestry
†Pryce, Thomas, Esq., Whitehall, Batavia
Pryce, Thomas Edward, Esq., Architect, 9, Argyll Street, London, W.
†Pryce, Robert Davies, Esq., Cyffronydd, Welshpool
*Pugh, Wm. Buckley, Esq., Dolfor Hall, Kerry, and Patrington, Hull
Pugh, Thomas, Esq., 338, East 125th Street, New York, U.S.A.

†Read, Offley Malcolm Crewe, Esq., Llandinam Hall, Llanidloes, and 75, Barrington House, Southsea
Rendel, Stuart, Esq., M.P., Plas Dinam, Llanidloes, and 16, Palace Gardens, London
†Richards, Thomas, Esq., 47, Holland Road, Kensington, London
†Roberts, Rev. Richard, M.A., Vicarage, Amlwch, Anglesea
Roberts, Rev. Robert Jones, M.A., Buttington Vicarage, Welshpool
Robinson, E. F., Esq., M.B., Park Lane, Welshpool

Robinson, George E., Esq., Cardiff
†Rutter, Thomas, Esq., Church Bank, Welshpool

St. Asaph, The Bishop of, The Palace, St. Asaph (*Vice-President*)
Sudeley, The Lord, Toddington, Gloucestershire (*Vice-President*)
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*Sandford, Rev. George, M.A., Ecclesall Vicarage, Sheffield
Savin, Thomas, Esq., Oswestry
Sladen, Rev. E. H. Mainwaring, M.A., The Gore, Bournemouth
Slaughter, Rev. Edward, St. Mary's, Old Bidston Road, Birkenhead
*†Smith, Charles Perin, Esq., Trenton, New Jersey, U.S. America (*deceased*)
†Smith, J. Russell, Esq., 36, Soho Square, London
Sotheran, Henry, Esq., 136, Strand, London
Sowerby, Thomas, Esq., M.R.C.S., Welshpool
Squires, Mrs., Fairfield, Clevedon, Somersetshire
Storey, Thomas, Esq., Westfield, Lancaster
†‡Sturkey, Thomas, Esq., Newtown
†Swettenham, William Norman, Esq., M.R.Inst.C.E., County Surveyor, Newtown, Mont.
Swithinbank, George Edwin, Esq., LL.D., Ormleigh, Mowbray Road, Upper Norwood, London, S.E.

Temple, Rev. R., M.A., Llwynygroes, Llanymynech, R.S.O.
*†Thomas, Rev. Canon D. R., M.A., Vicarage, Meifod, Welshpool
Tracy, The Hon. Frederick Hanbury, M.P., Gregynog, Montgomeryshire
Trinity College Library, Cambridge (Rev. R. Sinker, M.A., Librarian)
†Tudor, Owen Davies, Esq., 2, Collingham Road, South Kensington, London

†‡Vaughan, Mrs., Brookside, Welshpool
Verney, G. H., Esq., The Cedars, Esher, Surrey

†Wynn, Sir Watkin Williams, Bart., M.P., Wynnstay, Ruabon (*Vice-President*)
*†‡Walker, David, Esq., Architect, 11, Dale Street, Liverpool
Westworth, Robert, Esq., 31, King Street, Liverpool
†‡Wilding, William, Esq., Town Clerk, Montgomery
Williams, Edward, Esq., Broome Hall, Oswestry
Williams, E. W. Colt, Esq., H.M. Inspector of Schools, The Gate House, Hereford
‡Williams, Rev. John, M.A., Rectory, Newtown
*Williams, Rev. Canon Robert, M.A., Rectory, Llanfyllin
*†‡Williams, Richard, Esq., Celynog, Newtown (*Hon. Secretary*).
*Williams, Stephen W., Esq., Penralley, Rhayader

†Williames, Rees Buckley, Esq., Pennant, Garthmyl, Mont.
†‡Winder, Major Corbett, Vaynor Park, Berriew, Montgomeryshire
Withy, William, Esq., Severn Street, Welshpool
Woods, Sir Albert W., *Garter King of Arms*, College of Arms, London, E.C.
Wright, Philip, Esq., Mellington Hall, Churchstoke, Montgomery
†‡Wynn, Charles Watkin Williams, Esq., Coed-y-Maen, Welshpool
Wynne, W. R. M., Esq., Peniarth, Towyn

After 1*st October*, 1883.

Jones, Richard, Esq., Machynlleth
Lloyd, Richard, Esq., Dolforwyn Hall, Abermule
Roberts, David, Esq., 53, Willow Street, Oswestry
Twentyman, Llewelyn Howell, Esq., Castlecroft, near Wolverhampton

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THE POWYS-LAND CLUB.

THE SIXTEENTH ANNUAL MEETING
AND
DISTRIBUTION OF ART PRIZES.

The Annual Meeting of the Powys-land Club was held on Thursday afternoon, October 11, at the Museum, Welshpool, and upon this occasion the certificates and prizes in connection with two art classes which have been held in the Museum premises, in view of the establishment of a permanent School of Art there, were distributed. The chair was taken by the Earl of Powis, President of the Club, and amongst those present were :—The Bishop of St. Asaph, the Hon. Mrs. R. Herbert, the Misses Herbert, S. Salter, Esq., Mayor of Welshpool, Rd. Williams, Esq., the Misses Howell, Mrs. and Miss Twentyman, Miss Rownson, Miss Field, the Rev. Canon D. R. Thomas, Rev. A. J. M. Green, Mr. Green, jun., Rev. J. Williams, Rev. D. P. Lewis, Rev. J. E. Hill, Edward Evans, Esq., William Fisher, Esq., Mr. and Mrs. William Parker, Mr. Charles Cortissos, the Rev. Mr. Jones, Miss Pryce, T. B. Barrett, Esq., Mr. and Mrs. Copnall, Mrs. Roper, Miss Salter, the Rev. T. Hughes, Rev. R. J. Roberts, Buttington; Captain and Mrs. and Miss Mytton, Dr. Robinson, C. W. Williams Wynn, Esq., C. E. Howell, Esq., W. Withy, Esq., Thomas Withy, Esq., R. Jones, Esq., Clive Place; Rev. Canon Wynne Edwards, Askew Roberts, Esq., Charles Jones, Esq., solicitor; Ignatius Williams, Esq., George D. Harrison, Esq., Mrs. Morris Jones, Gungrog; Mr. M. P. Jones, Mr. Simpson Jones, the Misses Jones, Gungrog; Miss Copnall, Miss Hiles, Miss Alice Hill, Miss Jehu, Miss Davies, Mrs. Williams, the Rev. T. Jeffrey Jones and Rev. Jenkin Jones, Llanfair; Rev. Samuel Reed, Llanerfyl Rev. J. S. Lewis, Mr. and Mrs. Savin, Oswestry; M. C. Jones, F.S.A., etc.

A letter was received from the Hon. Treasurer (Mr. P. A. Beck) regretting his inability to attend.

The noble Chairman, in opening the proceedings, said :—I will call upon the Secretary to read the report.

Mr. Morris Jones, one of the Hon. Secretaries, then read the following report :—

The Committee have to report that the Club has shown renewed vitality in its operations, although it has not been free from vicissitudes. There have been five deaths during the year, viz., John

The Powys-land Club in account with Peter Arthur Beck, Esq., and ending

To Cash paid as follows :—			
„ Messrs. Whiting and Co., Limited, for Printing Report of Meeting and Supplementary Part .	£15	7	9
„ Ditto for Printing Part XXXII . . .	52	5	11
„ Ditto for Printing Part XXXIII . . .	57	14	9
„ Paid for Drawing and Lithographing Illustrations, and Copying	14	6	8
„ Paid for Postage of Report and Parts XXXII and XXXIII to Members; also of back Parts to New Members; Postage of Circulars, collecting Subscriptions, and remitting same, Reporter, etc. .	16	19	9
„ Paid for Book-case, etc., for Museum . .	8	10	6
„ Amount ordered to be paid to Museum Building Fund	100	0	0
„ Balance carried down	67	4	6
	£332	9	10

Hon. Treasurer, for the year commencing 1*st October* 1882, 30*th September* 1883.

By Balance in hand	£139	13	4
„ Cash received from Subscriptions as follows :—			
8 Subscriptions from Original Members at 10*s.* 6*d.* each	4	4	0
146 Subscriptions from Ordinary Members at £1 1*s.* each	153	6	0
Special :—			
1 The Earl of Powis	5	5	0
Arrears received	6	16	6
Subscriptions of next year received in advance from Members	15	15	0
10 Members who last year, or previously, paid this year's Subscription in advance.			
14 Members, in arrear, amounting, besides bad debts, to £27 6*s.* 0*d.*			
179 Number on List of Members on 30th Sept. 1882.			
Cash received for books sold . . .	7	10	0
	£332	9	10
1883, October. By balance in hand brought down .	£67	4	6

Beattie, Esq., Charles Perrin Smith, Esq., John Maurice Herbert, Esq., Rev. Prebendary Davies, and Thomas Edye, Esq., who attained the patriarchal age of 92.

One name has been removed from the roll of members owing to non-payment of subscriptions for three years. Three have resigned, and four new members have joined the Club.

The Treasurer has a balance in hand, after paying all liabilities, of £67 4*s.* 6*d.*, which is satisfactory.

It is hoped that the Transactions have maintained their position, although ill-health has prevented one of the Secretaries giving his valuable aid to the same extent as he had in previous years. The Secretaries have associated with themselves in the secretaryship, Mr. Richard Williams, who has already given such efficient assistance, and with whose co-operation they trust the literary work of the Club will be promoted with renewed vigour. The sanction of the Club for this step is sought.

Varied additions have been made to the collections in the Museum.

The principal event of the year has been the erection of a new room for the purpose of a School of Art, which will complete the original design of the Institution. Towards this, £455 has been specially contributed.

When the building is completed, and some necessary internal fittings are provided, there will be a small deficiency of £50 or £60, which, if not otherwise subscribed, the Committee ask for the sanction of the Club to pay out of the general funds.

The Art Classes have met with encouraging success, which will be detailed in a separate report. The Committee have asked the President to present to the successful pupils the prizes awarded.

The abstract of the Treasurer's account was also read.

The CHAIRMAN then said: Ladies and Gentlemen, the report we have just heard is very satisfactory, for it shows we have a balance in hand, which, however, our active Secretary will not long allow to remain in an unproductive state, because he will make use of it to assist in the completion of the buildings which you now see in progress, and which we had hoped would have been in a more complete condition to-day. However, those of you who take the trouble to go upstairs, will see there a very excellent new apartment very nearly finished, which will be a great accommodation for the School of Art. I believe that when we are in a position to set up as a School of Art, we shall receive greater assistance from the Science and Art Department, than while we are simply confined to giving accommodation to drawing classes. I think that in the present day a knowledge of drawing is extremely valuable to young persons of both sexes. There is scarcely any profession in which the power of using the pencil is not on some occasion or other of great use. And the facilities which these classes now give, the prizes

presented by the department of Science and Art, and the competition which is fostered by it, will tend not only to bring the drawing lessons within the reach of many persons who otherwise would not have possessed the means of obtaining them, but will afford them a great incentive to persevere in their labours. The walls of the new room will very soon, I think, be filled with the different objects, either of antiquity or art, that belong to the Society, or that we may get possession of. I do not think that Mr. Morris Jones anticipates that he will long have any large extent of wall which is not usefully covered and adorned. I move that the report now read be confirmed, and that the financial recommendations therein contained be carried out.

The Bishop of St. Asaph said: I have great pleasure in seconding the resolution which has been proposed to you by the noble lord. I cannot but admire the laudable ambition of Welshpool. When I first saw this building and its contents it was in a very different condition from what I see it in now. It seems to be growing year by year, and I think it is of the utmost advantage to the locality generally. I think that the connection of this Institution with the School of Art you are about to establish will be very important. We hear a great deal of skilled labour, and you know who the men are who carry out everything worth accomplishing. Why, in every great enterprise in this Principality, we have to send to England or Scotland, or elsewhere, because skilled labour is required, but skilled labour cannot be produced without something analogous to the School of Art you are about to institute. A man's hands must be accustomed to special work, and a man's eye must also be accustomed to special work. For work of a delicate kind, the human eye and the human hand alike require to be trained. But you have to consider, not only what skilled labour is able to accomplish, but also the immense amount of enjoyment it affords. There is no doubt whatever that in proportion as the human vision is able to convey to the mind impressions from the different external objects at which we look is the pleasure we derive from that inspection. You are well aware that the artist looks at things with a very different eye from that of the ordinary observer. Speaking for myself, I confess that I pass over them with a simple glance at the broad outline, while there are a great many points connected with it which would be an immense advantage to me if I saw them. I do not see them because my eye has not been accustomed to it. This artistic faculty has been very beautifully set out in a pamphlet your Secretary has kindly sent me, and I think the School of Art will produce a very great effect in this town and neighbourhood. Let us look at it not only in connection with this immediate locality, but with the progress of education generally throughout the Principality. I admire very much indeed what you said in your application that the site of the future College of North Wales might be placed at Welshpool. I think you said a great deal really worth saying, and if you had been successful, I, for one, should have rejoiced. I am, of course, glad that

the College is to be established nearer to my own home, but Welshpool has great advantages I cannot but admit. The arbitrators have fixed upon a locality as specially advantageous, of which most of you probably know the situation. Bangor has special beauties, and special advantages. It is situated on the banks of the Menai, and is well adapted for athletic and other exercises. It may be merely a sentiment, but I rather like the idea of the future College of Wales being in the place that bears the very same name as that with which you are well acquainted in ancient history—Bangor Isycoed. There once existed a noble institution, an educational institution. I have got into some little difficulty upon that subject. Nothing was further from my mind when I was at Welshpool before than to cause any kind of controversy. I quite admit that Brochwel, as a good general, did not fight on the first occasion. He found it the wiser course to withdraw; but when he had an opportunity of obtaining the assistance of the Prince of Pengwern, and other chieftains of the Principality, you know that he did turn back the tide of war, and we are greatly indebted to him. There is one very strong reason why we should look on this College with peculiar interest. There will, again, be a College at Bangor, though at another Bangor, and that College I hope will become a great institution. There were two thousand inmates in the Colleges of Bangor Isycoed when it was destroyed. We cannot say whether there will ever be two thousand inmates in the new College at Bangor. Possibly not; but I think that at any rate there is a great future before it. It appears to me that you are really doing a great work here at Welshpool, and I hope you will continue to make progress. Yours, also, is an educational movement, and is therefore connected in some sense with the educational movement of which I have spoken. I hope that, like our friends across the Border, in Scotland, there will be many sent from this county to become distinguished for their literary attainments, and the good they will be able to accomplish for their country generally. Therefore, I do rejoice at every sign of progress of this kind. I trust that the movement will not soon come to an end, but will continue to go forward. Looking at the periodical published here, I would enlist your special interest for several reasons. One is this—there are remarkable instances given in it of men who, without the advantages of education, have risen from the very lowest ranks of mechanical art. I believe that one of them, a shoemaker,[1] became a distinguished Oriental scholar; and there are several others amongst our worthies who prove that Trefaldwyn—that is its old name—is no ordinary county. I hope that in future a great many more natives of Montgomeryshire, having advantages which these worthies never had, will not only become Oriental scholars, but will distinguish themselves in every branch of literature. I heartily wish success to this Institution. With reference to the College for North Wales you have had this privilege. You have sent from Welshpool the distinguished

[1] Thomas Ellis of Llanfyllin. See *Mont. Coll.*, vol. xvi, p. 212.

nobleman who presides here this evening, and I believe you will pardon me for saying in his presence that he has done more to combine all the different parties in the Principality in the great object we all have in view than could possibly have been done by anyone else (*cheers*). I believe you have done, and are doing, a great work, and I heartily wish you God-speed.

The motion for the adoption of the Report was then unanimously agreed to.

The Rev. D. P. Lewis said: My Lords, Ladies, and Gentlemen, I rise to move the resolution which has been put into my hands, but before I do so, allow me to congratulate you on the good attendance —so much better than that of last year—due no doubt to the superior attractiveness of the President of this year. I wish also to congratulate the Society on the success of the art classes. I feel assured that they are calculated to be of great value to Welshpool and its neighbourhood, and to persons of all classes, if able and willing to avail themselves of the advantages thus afforded. How valuable to the artisan to have his industry and manual skill improved by art. So may the textile fabrics of British factories compete in beauty with those of more artistic countries. To the middle class, the art of drawing is also of great value, as a source of pleasure the most refined. How delightful to be able to reproduce by the pencil this striking view, that interesting ruin, thus recalling to memory objects which interested in years gone by. I may speak of the advantages of these classes from experience, for one or two of the members of my family availed themselves of these classes when opened on a former occasion; and besides the refined pleasure to be obtained by artistic skill, one class of young men, viz. those who desire to become officers in the army, will find freehand and other drawing give them no mean number of marks in a competitive examination for a direct commission. To aid the Secretaries in carrying on these and other good works which this Society has taken in hand, I have much pleasure in proposing that Mr. Richard Williams be associated in the secretaryship with the other two Secretaries.

The Rev. Canon D. R. Thomas, F.S.A., in seconding the resolution, said: When a family increases in number, it is generally necessary to fetch in another nurse (*laughter*). That seems to be very much the case with the Powys-land Club at the present time. The Club has grown so much, is doing so much work, and has entered so zealously and heartily into quite another field of operation, that it is really necessary that there should be another Secretary. I am not sure whether it will not be also rather necessary in order to keep the other two Secretaries in hand for fear they should go a little too fast. We need in some measure to consolidate what we have done in the past, as well as to make new efforts for the future. But I am glad to say that, in this instance, though there has been a very considerable addition to the family, the old members of it have not had their noses put out of joint. When the last number of the *Montgomeryshire Collections* came out I looked rather carefully into it, and went through it from

beginning to end. I found that its contents were exceedingly interesting; and considering that it was the last number of the sixteenth volume, it spoke volumes itself for the zeal displayed in and attention paid to the archæological work of the Club (*hear, hear*). That last number I consider at least equal in interest to any of its predecessors, and I think that is saying a great deal. It has, too, greater variety. The Bishop has already referred to one article, which must be of very great interest to all Montgomeryshire people. It is fitting that those who have shown such ability and genius in their line of work, and have stood out amongst their fellows, should be recognised, and that their history should be handed down, not only for their own credit and their own worth's sake, but as an incentive to others. The parochial accounts are also of special interest, and in one of them there is a casual sentence which struck me very much. It is in the account of the old church of Llanerfyl.[1] The vestry met to decide the fees that should be paid for burials within the church. Certain fees were to be paid to the Rector for burials within the rood or within the chancel, and the fees below the rood, or in the nave of the church, were to go to the Churchwardens. Now, as far as I can remember, this is the only instance I have met with, in the Welsh dioceses, of the Rector being specially chargeable, as I assume he was, in a case where he had special privileges, within the chancel. I believe it to be universally the case in the English dioceses, but not so in the Welsh, and that casual entry at Llanerfyl, therefore, proved an exception to what I believe to be the rule with regard to our own dioceses. I should like, also, to make a passing reference to the account of Llanfair, because I notice that there is a little jealousy of Meifod's claim to a sort of motherhood of a great many parishes in the surrounding neighbourhood. It is said that this motherhood or headship requires to be proved.[2] Now, I think the burden of proof ought to rest upon the other side. We have distinctly, in the case of Meifod, one of the oldest parishes in the country. We have at the very end of this same number of the *Montgomeryshire Collections* an account of the Monastery of Meifod, implying, of course, that the evangelisation of the district was carried on from one centre; that a number of priests lived in common, and spread out to the surrounding parts. In accordance with the laws of Howel Dda there were certain regulations to be followed where the landowner wished to have a church for the benefit of his dependents, certain payments being made to the mother church. In the grant of a special portion of Llanfair to the nunnery of Llanllugan, we have distinct allusion to the "Perigloriet". This is rather an uncommon-looking word, but it simply means Rectorship. With these facts fitting in together, surely the proof that this mothership, or headship, did not exist ought to come from the other side. I now beg to add a word or two with

[1] See *Mont. Coll.*, vol. xvi, p. 267.

[2] See *Ibid.*, vol. xvi, p. 348 and p. 413. Also vol. xv, pp. 267-70, *et supra.*

regard to the new work which has been taken in hand so zealously, and if we may judge from the first examination and its results, so efficiently—the Art Classes and School of Art it is intended to establish. I, for one, regret very much that I live at too great a distance from Welshpool to avail myself of it for my own children; and I can only say that if I were younger, and lived nearer, I should be very thankful to take advantage of it myself. I always regret that I had not the opportunity, when I was young, of learning the art of drawing. It is one of the most delightful accomplishments, I cannot help thinking, to those who have that gift and have cultivated it, as well as one which gives great pleasure to those who look at the objects which have been ably and artistically portrayed. It is also a great teaching power. In speaking of this teaching power, one is reminded of the great strain to which those engaged in the work of teaching are subject. The School of Art will not only, I believe, be a very great help to them, but also a great relief to them, because learning to draw will give employment without that mental strain. Their work is of a kind which requires change of occupation, and instead of adding to the labour already devolved upon them in their schools, the art school will afford them real help and enjoyment, and will be, besides, a means of remuneration, for they will not only be able to teach others how to attain so valuable a means of enjoyment, but will receive larger grants in consequence, and that in these days of competition is a very great consideration. Supposing, for instance, the school which has now been started here for drawing and modelling and wood-carving, had existed, say sixty or seventy years ago, or a little more; and supposing Samuel Ellis of Melinrhyd,[1] who began by carving with a knife the most simple things, and went on with self-study and self-improvement till he became an excellent mechanical engineer; supposing he had had the advantage of coming here to get instruction—remembering what he accomplished in spite of the difficulties with which he had to contend—he would, no doubt, have been one of the very foremost engineers of his age. Every child has, more or less, an inclination for modelling or carving. Any lad who takes a turnip and cuts it out into a rude imitation of the human face shows a sort of innate love of modelling. Let him be taught to do it in the best way he can, and the skill he will acquire will afford him not a mere momentary amusement, but a real and lasting pleasure. In the same way, the fact that our walls are scored with triangular figures, and eyes, nose, and arms, to represent a man, shows that there is among a very large number of children a love of drawing. Opportunities are held out by the School of Art, which, I believe, will materially improve and raise the tone of, and add discernment of truth and beauty of form to, this natural inclination which exists in so many persons (*hear, hear*). The Annual Report on this subject, which has been printed in the *Montgomeryshire Collections*, mentioned how agriculture and manufactures may be included in the teaching

[1] See *Mont. Coll.*, vol. xvi, p. 209.

given. This is an agricultural district, but it is not thickly populated, and therefore the advantage of having teachers able to spread themselves out among a thinly populated district is all the more patent to everybody. Although there are not many manufactures here, Welshpool has been rejoicing exceedingly within the last few weeks at the opening of a great building here, and they will be one of the features, I trust, of the instruction given in the School of Art, the pupils in which will reflect the benefit of that teaching it is the object of the movement to supply and provide for them. I beg leave to second the proposal that Mr. Richard Williams be appointed Assistant-Secretary (*cheers*).

The motion having been carried unanimously, the CHAIRMAN called upon the Rev.J. E. Hill to read the following Report:—

POWYS-LAND SCHOOL OF ART.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE.

Preparatory to establishing a permanent School of Art in Welshpool, two art classes have been held in the Museum premises, under the superintendence of Mr. Charles Cortissos, School of Art, Shrewsbury, and the management of this Committee. These classes have been carried on with some inconvenience, for want of a proper room and sufficient accommodation; at the same time they have met with considerable success, and have been self-supporting.

One class is held in the afternoon, twice a week, namely, on Tuesday and Friday, and the fee is £1 1*s.* per term of ten weeks; the other class is held in the evenings of the same days, and the fee is 5*s.* per term; upwards of forty students have attended.

On the 3rd and 4th of May last, examinations were held of the classes by the Science and Art Department, South Kensington, when the following numbers offered themselves for examination, viz.:—

Model Drawing	5
Freehand „	17
Geometrical „	3
Perspective „	3
	28

Two outside pupils are included in the above. The result has been as follows:—

The following prizes and certificates were awarded by the Department:—

FOR FREEHAND AND MODEL DRAWING.—Joseph Henry Davies (both excellent), second grade certificate and two prizes in books.

FOR FREEHAND DRAWING.—Miss Elizabeth Sarah Williams (excellent), second grade certificate and prize in books; Joseph Bickerton Morgan, second grade certificate; Thomas Phillips, second grade certificate.

For Geometry.—Reginald M. Copnall, second grade certificate.

From the evening class were sent up, also, seventy-six Elementary Works for the "School Works Examination".

The Science and Art Department awarded £3 for second grade successes, and £5 on account of works, making together £8.

The total income of School from fees has been				£65	18 0
Results				8	0 0
				£73	18 0
The payment to Master, being ¾th of fees	£49	8	6		
Results	8	0	0		
				57	8 6
Balance applicable to payment of current expenses of the year				£16	9 6

For the encouragement of the class, the Committee offered some prizes, and the following were the results:—

For Outline Drawing from Nature.—First prize, Reginald M. Copnall; second, Miss Jehu.

For Outline Drawing from the Cast.—First prize, John Owen Roberts; second, Reginald M. Copnall (having already had a prize, it was transferred to Miss Davies).

The prizes offered for the afternoon class were not competed for.

The Art Gallery being completed, a School of Art will be substituted for the Art classes, which will afford several advantages to the master, and also to the classes—particularly the afternoon class—and give the school an element of permanence.

Although the Art classes may be primarily intended for artizans and those who attended the evening class, it would be short-sighted to leave to them solely the enjoyment of the benefits of the school; it is conceived that it will be an advantage to a neighbourhood like this that an afternoon class be also held, where, for a reasonable charge, all may participate in acquiring the accomplishment of drawing. Included among those who have already attended the afternoon class, are members of the families of four clergymen, two magistrates, and two professional men; and when the school is better known, it is probable that larger numbers will join.

When the School of Art is established, it will be easy to add a science class and a wood-carving class, similar to the one at Oswestry—one pupil has commenced taking modelling lessons—and it is contemplated to add an Art needle-work class.

The Committee will be flattered by the President of the Powysland Club distributing the prizes and certificates amongst the successful pupils. (Signed) J. E. Hill,

Chairman of the Committee.

The CHAIRMAN then distributed the certificates and prizes to the successful candidates, who were cheered upon coming forward to receive them. The prizes consisted of books.

The Mayor of Welshpool (S. SALTER, Esq.) then said: I have much pleasure in moving that a vote of thanks be presented to Lord Powis for presiding this evening.

Mr. W. T. PARKER: I have much pleasure in seconding the resolution proposed by our worthy Mayor. I also feel a great deal of pleasure in expressing the thanks of the meeting to Lord Powis for what he has done for the town of Welshpool, for which we are so deeply indebted to him. I also, more especially upon this occasion, wish to record our sense of gratitude to him in reference to the matter which has been alluded to by the Lord Bishop of the Diocese, the interest he has kindly taken in the North Wales College. Had it not been for Lord Powis's accepting the Presidency of that important inquiry, I question very much whether Welshpool would have been in the running as long as it was. We may flatter ourselves that, through the assistance of Lord Powis and others, we came well to the front. As I have said before, it is a pleasure upon this occasion to take advantage of the opportunity of heartily thanking Lord Powis for having then, as always, done all he possibly could for the town of Welshpool.

The CHAIRMAN, in reply, said: I am much obliged to you for the compliment you have been good enough to pay me. I am very glad that to-day our business has been increased by the very interesting number of prizes and prize certificates we have been able to distribute, and I hope that is a feature which the progress of the School of Art here will develop more largely in future years.

CLASSIFIED LIST OF ARTICLES

PRESENTED, BETWEEN NOVEMBER 1882 AND NOVEMBER 1883, TO THE POWYS-LAND MUSEUM AND LIBRARY, WITH THE NAMES OF THE DONORS.*

(*Continued from "Mont. Coll.", vol.* XV, *p.* XXXVI.)

BRONZE :—

Presented by **(389)** FRANK JONES, Belan (1883).

1. A piece of Bronze Ornament found in Pompeii in 1881.

Presented by **(18)** RICHARD WILLIAMS (1883).

18. A small fragment of bronze found in a bed of clay.

STONE :—

Presented by **(170)** CHARLES THOMAS (1883).

8. Flint stone ("Marine Sponge") from walls of Roman castle in Kent.

Presented by **(399)** JOHN DAVIES, Churchstoke (1883).

1. Stone Cup found at Churchstoke. (See *Mont. Coll.*, vol. xvi, p. 296.)

Presented by **(21)** Rev. AUGUSTUS FIELD (1883).

12. A small stone hollowed out in the shape of a cup.

Presented by **(114)** T. B. BARRETT (1883).

73. An Indian Stone Arrow-head found in the State of Wisconsin, North America.

Presented by **(314)** WORTHINGTON G. SMITH (1883).

2. Specimens of rude Palæolithic Flint Implements found in the drift.

Presented by **(389)** FRANK JONES, Belan.

3. Two pieces of marble from the floor of Colosseum at Rome.

POTTERY AND CASTS :—

Presented by **(389)** FRANK JONES, Belan.

2. Portion of handle of Water Ewer found in Pompeii in 1881.

Presented by **(114)** T. B. BARRETT (1883).

73*. Four casts of rare Fossils.

(For the use of the Art Classes.)

74. Nineteen Plaster Casts.

* Each donor's name has a large number prefixed, and each of his donations is numbered consecutively with a small number. This is done for the future identification of the donations.

75. Cast of Cup.
76. Small mahogany Easel.
77. 2 busts Ajax and Antinoüs.
78. Diagram to illustrate the harmonious relation of colours.

Anatomical Specimens :—

Presented by **(114)** T. B. Barrett (1883).

79. One young Skull (human) with horizontal and vertical sections, also showing the progress of first and second dentition.
80. Adult Skull, having each bone of the head and face separated to show the sutures and attachments.
81. A Skeleton of a Right Hand.
82. A Skeleton of a Right Foot.

Foreign Curiosities :—

Presented by **(1)** Morris C. Jones (1883).

257. Pair of Foreign Satin Boots.

Engraved or other Portraits of Montgomeryshire Worthies, etc. :

Presented by **(360)** Sir Watkin Williams Wynn, Bart., M.P. (1883).

3. Lithographed Portrait of Sir W. W. Wynn, the fifth Baronet.
4. Lithographed Portrait of Sir Henry W. W. Wynn, Kt., formerly Ambassador to Denmark.
5. Engraved Portrait of Sir W. W. Wynn, the fourth Baronet.
6. Lithographed Portrait of Sir R. W. Vaughan, Bart.

Presented by **(37)** Miss Corrie (1883).

Photograph of John Davies Corrie, Esq.

Presented by **(390)** W. Buckley Pugh (1883).

1. Photograph of Portrait of William Pugh, Esq., of Bryn-llwarch.

Presented by **(123)** W. H. Adnitt (1883).

6. Copperplate Engraving of Rev. Richard Richards, Rector of Caerwys.

Presented by **(48)** C. P. Smith (1883).

4. Engraved Portrait of himself.

Presented by **(114)** T. B. Barrett (1883).

83. Photograph of Portrait of the Honourable Charlotte Clive, by A. Kaufman.
84. Photograph of Richard Herbert Mytton, Esq., of Garth.
85. Photograph of Mrs. Mytton.

Other Engravings, etc. :—

Presented by **(360)** Sir W. W. Wynn, Bart.

7. Engraving of Berriew Old Church.
8. Engraving of Garthmyl House.
9. Photograph of large tree at Mathafarn.

Presented by **(1)** Morris C. Jones.

258. Two lithographed Engravings of the Altar Tomb and Effigy of the Earl of Powis, K.G., in two positions.

MANUSCRIPTS :—

Presented by **(53)** A. C. HUMPHREY-OWEN (1883).

4. Power of Attorney, dated 3rd March 1829, under hand and Heraldic Seal (with eight quarterings and escutcheon of pretence) of Edward Lord Herbert of Chirbury and Castle Island.

DOMESTIC CURIOSITIES :—

Presented by **(400)** Benjamin Thomas, Westbury (1883).

1. Curious Machine said to be used for plaiting the cambric frills formerly worn in the front of gentlemen's shirts.

Presented by **(97)** ASKEW ROBERTS (1883).

16. A specimen of the Badge adopted by Oswestry Grammar School, inscribed "Oswestry School, David Holbache, 1407." Arms—*Azure*, a chevron engrailed *sable*.

COINS :—

Presented by **(86)** C. B. BLACK (1883).

7. A silver Coin (ancient Gaul).

Presented by **(391)** Mrs. GRIFFITHS, 37, Salop Road, Welshpool.

1. Six English Coins.

Sixpence of Queen Elizabeth, 1581; groat, Charles II, 1677; sixpence, William III, 1690; shilling, George I, 1723; crown piece, George II, 1746; German coin; a shilling token, "R. Griffiths, corner shop, Welshpool."

SEALS :—

Presented by **(392)** GUARDIANS OF THE POOR.

1. Original Seal of Forden Union, formerly called "The House of Industry".

INSCRIPTION—"Common Seal." ARMS, two shields conjoined: one, *Az.*, a lion rampant within bordure *or* (Montgomery); the other, "*Or*, a castle ppr.", surmounted by "a beehive with bees volant"; supporters, *dexter*, a male figure with in his hand; *sinister*, a female figure with a whip in her hand. MOTTO, "Religion and Industry produce Happiness."

Presented by **(394)** C. S. PERCEVAL, Treas. of Soc. of Antiquaries, London (1883).

1. Cast of the matrix of a Seal of the Commissary of Arwystli, Diocese Bangor, *temp.* Edward VI. (See *Mont. Coll.*, vol. xvi, p. 259)

BOOKS OF MONTGOMERYSHIRE AUTHORS :—

Presented by **(352)** T. MORGAN OWEN, M.A., the author (1883).

2. Early English and Welsh History, 2nd edition, 1882.
3. Report.

Presented by **(1)** MORRIS C. JONES (1883).

259. The Churchman's Defence, by G. Vane Jones.

OTHER BOOKS :—

Presented by **(114)** T. B. BARRETT (1883).

86. Memorials of John Ray, by Lankester, 1846 (Ray Society 1844).

87. On some Archæological Remains in Gloucester relating to the Burning of Bishop Hooper, 1880.
88. History of the Art of Pottery, by J. Mayer.
89. Cliffe's Book of North Wales, 1871.
90. Life of John Roberts of Gloucestershire, farmer *tempore* Charles II.
91. Catalogue of M. Guglielmo Libri's Collection of Objects of Art, 1864.
92. Apsley House and Walmer Castle. Imperial. Illustrated with plates and descriptions, 1853.
93. L'aes Grave del Museo Kircheriano disegnato in pietra. Imperial.
94. Selection of Vases, Altars, Candelabra, and Tripods from the Louvre at Paris. 9 plates. With descriptive letter-press. 1826.
95. Catalogue of Ancient and Modern Jewellery, 1872.
96. Catalogue of Ashmolean Library (1836).
97. Catalogue of the Bernal Collection (1855).
98. Catalogue of Collection of David Falcke (1858).
99. Catalogue of Royal Society (1681), fol.
100. Ancient Crosses and other Antiquities in the East of Cornwall, by J. T. Blight (1858).
101. Pre-historic Phases, by Westropp (1872).
102. Handy Book of the British Museum, by T. Nichols (1870).
103. Pinkerton on Medals, 2 vols. (1789).
104. Stodart's Letters (1820).
105. On Greek Coins (partly MS.)
106. Public Charities of England and Wales.
107. Clarendon's Life (1760).
108. Historical MSS. Commissioners' Report, vol. i.
109. Imperatorum Romanorum Numismata (folio).

Camden Society Publications, 11 vols, viz. :—

110. Suppression of the Monasteries (1843).
111. Diary of Henry Machin, Citizen of London, 1550, 1563, (1847).
112. Bury Wills and Indentures (1850).
113. Norden's Description of Essex (1840).
114. Charles I in 1646 (1855).
115. Diary of Walter Yonge, Esq. (1847).
116. Obituary of Richard Smyth (1848).
117. Diary of Dr. John Dee (1842).
118. French Chronicle of London (1844).
119. The Camden Miscellany, vol. i (1847).
120. Queen Jane and Queen Mary (1840).

Presented by (**395**) Rev. W. S. Calverley (1883).

1. The Sculptured Cross at Gosforth.

Presented by (**1**) Morris C. Jones (1883).

260. Grave Mounds and their Contents, by Ll. Jewett.
261. Powis Castle : Anecdotes of an Ancient Family.

262. Catalogue of Mayer's Museum: Part II—Prehistoric Antiquities and Ethnography.

Presented by **(6)** W. Fisher (1883).

20. Notes and Jottings from Animal Life, by Buckland.

Presented by **(396)** J. P. Earwaker (1883).

1. Local Gleanings relating to Lancashire and Cheshire.
2. East Cheshire, Past and Present. Two volumes, 4to.

Presented by **(397)** Joseph Foster (1883).

1. Collectanea Genealogica, Oct. 1882.
2. "The Lyon Office in Retreat" (from same, part xi).

Presented by **(215)** D. P. Owen (1883).

7. An Essay on the Passions, with other Poems, by A. Donoughe, 1799, Shrewsbury. Printed by T. Wood, St. John's Hill, for P. Owen, bookseller, Welshpool.

It contains several poems on local subjects—"A Description of Powis Castle and its Environs", "On Reading the Character of Lady Clive"; "A Sonnet written on the Top of Welshpool Churchyard".

8. Catholic Epistles and Gospels, translated from Breh..... of Britany.
9. The proceedings of the Eisteddfod held in Welshpool, Sept. 1824.

Presented by **(112)** A. W. Black (1883).

32. The Land of Morgan, by G. T. Clark.

Being a Contribution towards the History of the Lordship of Glamorgan.

Presented by **(70)** John Evans, LL.D., F.R.S. (1883).

3. Unwritten History and how to Read it. A Lecture.

Presented by **(398)** Samuel Salter, Sen. (1883).

1. Reprint of Shrewsbury Chronicle, 23 November 1772, No. 1.
2. Copy of Shrewsbury Chronicle, March 11, 1775.

Presented by **(86)** C. B. Black (1883).

8. Catalogue of Musée de Saumur.

Presented by **(80)** W. T. Parker (1883).

24. "College for North Wales, Welshpool; Plan of Proposed Site; Medical Officer's Report; etc. Samuel Salter, Mayor; Edward Jones, Town Clerk, 1883."

Presented by **(213)** J. Y. W. Lloyd (1883).

3. His Work—History of Powys Fadog. Vol. iii.

Presented by **(133)** J. J. Howard, LL.D. (1883), in exchange.

Miscellanea Genealogica et Heraldica, 1883.

Presented by **(222)** The Cambrian Archæological Association (1883).

Archæologia Cambrensis. 4th Ser. Vol. xiii.

Archæological Societies' Transactions received in exchange for the Powys-land Club Publications :—

From **(223)** The Royal Historical and Archæological Society of Ireland (1883).
Journal. Vol. vi, 4th Series, Nos. 52, 53, and 54.

From **(309)** The Shropshire Archæological and Natural History Society (1883).
Vol. vi, Parts 1, 2, and 3.

From **(45)** The British Archæological Association (1883).
Journal. Vol. xxxviii, Part 4 ; and Vol. xxxix, Parts 1, 2, and 3.

From **(293)** The Cambridge Antiquarian Society (1883).
No. 1 of Vol. v.
Ancient Cambridgeshire, by Professor C. C. Babington.

From **(351)** The Bristol and Gloucestershire Archæological Society (1883).
Transactions. Vol. vi, Part 2 ; Vol. vii, Part 1.
Notes on the Wills in the Great Orphan Book. No. 2.

From **(72)** The Yorkshire Archæological and Topographical Society (1883).
Transactions. Parts 28 and 29.

From **(259)** The Hon. Society of Cymmrodorion (1883).
Y Cymmrodor. Vol. v, 2 and 3 ; Vol. vi, 1.
The Gododin of Aneurin Gwawdrydd. Part 3.
Ystorya de Carolo Magno, from the Red Book of Hergest.

From **(224)** The Royal Archæological Institute of Great Britain and Ireland (1883).
Transactions. Nos. 155, 156, 157, and 158.

From **(298)** The Leicester Literary and Philosophical Society (1883).
Report of Council, and Transactions for years 1882-3.

From **(73)** Society of Antiquaries of Scotland (1883).
Proceedings, 1881-2.

From **(290)** Worcester Diocesan Society.
Reports and Papers, 1881-2.

From **(44)** The London and Middlesex Archæological Society (1883).
Transactions. Vol. vi, Part 1.

From **(297)** The Wiltshire Archæological and Natural History Society (1883).
The Magazine. Nos. 60 and 61.

From (**289**) The Royal Institution of Cornwall (1883).
Journal. Vol. vii, Parts 3 and 4.

From (**296**) The Glasgow Philosophical Society (1883).
Proceedings. Vol. xiii, 2.

From (**25**) The Society of Antiquaries of London (1883).
Proceedings. Vol. viii, No. 6 ; Vol. ix, Nos. 1 and 2.

From (**295**) The Sussex Archæological Society (1883).
Sussex Archæological Collections. Vol. xxxiii.

From (**46**) The Surrey Archæological Society (1883).
Proceedings. Vol. viii, Part 2.

From (**367**) The Somersetshire Archæological and Natural History Society.
Proceedings during 1880. Vol. viii.

Alphabetical List of Donors of Articles and Books to the Powys-land Museum and Library,

From October 1882 *to October* 1883.

Calverley, Rev. W. S., 395
Davies, John (Churchstoke), 399
Earwaker, J. P., 396
Foster, Joseph, 397
Griffiths, Mrs. J., 391
Guardians of the Poor, Forden Union, 393
Jones, Frank (Belan), 389
Perceval, C. S., 394
Pugh, W. B., 390
Salter, Samuel, sen., 398
Thomas Benjamin, 400

Report of the Powys-land Museum and Library Committee.

The Museum has been visited by 311 persons, not quite so many this year as usual, possibly in consequence of the alterations, and the access to the Museum being impeded. 84 persons have paid the admission fee.

The balance at the beginning of the year was .	£2	2	7
Admission fees received	1	1	0
	£3	3	7
The expenditure—Income-tax, £1 ; cleaning, 6*s.* ; brooms, etc., 5*s.*; pens and ink, 6*d.* . . .	£1	11	6
Balance	£1	12	1

This Committee have the pleasure to report that the full development of the design of the Museum has been effected by the erection of a School and Gallery of Art. The addition consists of a room 47 feet long, 24 feet broad, and 14 feet high to the wall-plate, and lighted from the roof, for the School and Gallery of Art. Also a Committee Room and Class Room, each 16 feet by 12 feet, and a Lavatory, etc. The buildings now cover the entire site vested in the Museum Trustees.

Contracts were entered into for the work for an aggregate sum of £485, and some further expenditure has unavoidably been incurred for extras, the accounts of which have not yet been received.

In addition to the sum of £231 11*s.* 10*d.* mentioned in the Committee's Report last year, a subscription-list has been opened, and the sum of £224 11*s.* raised, making together the sum of £456 2*s.* 10*d.* An Appendix to this Report gives a full list of the subscriptions.

This Committee have to express their obligations to Mr. Charles W. Jones of Liverpool, who has kindly rendered his honorary services as architect, thus saving the Building Fund at least £25 for architect's commission, etc.

This Committee also received a present of two grates and mantelpieces for the two smaller rooms. This was a substantial aid, and enabled them to spend more money on a large and expensive stove which was considered necessary for warming the School and Gallery of Art.

The School and Gallery of Art require some fittings, which are being provided on a moderate scale. It affords at least 1,700 square feet of wall-space, and 1,200 feet of floor-space, which are available for Works of Art and Models from the Antique. The Committee hope that it will not be long before some donations for the adornment of this capacious apartment will be received.

The Science and Art Department will assist the Committee in the purchase of Models from the Antique by paying half the cost, when the Committee are in a position to provide the other half.

But for donations of Works of Art, the Committee have solely to rely upon the unbounded generosity and patriotism of the Members of the Powys-land Club and gentlemen and lovers of art resident in the district, which they do with perfect confidence.

In the meantime, the Committee would gladly accept of the temporary loan of Paintings and other Works of Art for exhibition in the Gallery of Art, in order to remove its present appearance of bareness.

A pamphlet, *On the Advantages of Drawing*, was reprinted with the consent of the Science and Art Department, and largely circulated in the district for the purposes of fostering the School of Art, and making known the great advantages to be derived therefrom. It is reproduced at the end of this Report in order to preserve it, and make it still more extensively known.

APPENDIX TO THE MUSEUM AND LIBRARY COMMITTEE REPORT.

List of Subscribers to the Museum Completion Fund.

Joseph Evans, Esq. (included in the £231 : 11 : 6 mentioned in last year's Report) ...	£100	0	0
The Earl of Powis ...	10	10	0
Mrs. Gilbertson	10	0	0
Stuart Rendel, Esq., M.P.	10	0	0
Sampson S. Lloyd, Esq. ...	10	0	0
Morris C. Jones, F.S.A. ...	10	0	0
William Fisher, Esq. ..	10	0	0
Major Corbett-Winder ...	10	0	0
Lord Sudeley	5	0	0
C. W. W. Wynn, Esq. ...	5	0	0
Hon. F. Hanbury Tracy, M.P.	5	0	0
Sir W. W. Wynn, Bart., M.P.	5	0	0
The Marquis of Londonderry, K.P.	5	0	0
F. Calvert, Esq., Q.C. ..	5	0	0
Edwin Hilton, Esq. ...	5	0	0
P. A. Beck, Esq. ...	5	0	0
Mrs. Lovell	5	0	0
R. Jehu, Esq., London ...	5	0	0
Joseph Beattie, Esq., Birmingham	5	0	0
Pryce Jones, Esq. ...	5	0	0
A. Howell, Esq. ...	5	0	0
The Chevalier Lloyd, K.S.G.	5	0	0
David Howell, Esq. ...	5	0	0
Major Harrison	5	0	0
Miss Mytton	5	0	0
Lloyd's Banking Co., Lim.	5	0	0
John Naylor, Esq. ...	5	0	0
Love Jones-Parry, Esq., M.P.	3	3	0
Rev. G. A. Salusbury, M.A.	3	3	0
John Pryce Davies, Esq. ...	3	0	0
D. W. Evans, Esq., Glascoed	2	2	0
R. H. Wood, Esq., F.S.A., Rugby	2	2	0
J. Hilditch Evans, Esq. ...	2	2	0
R. S. Hudson, Esq. ...	2	2	0
Miss Corrie	2	0	0
C. E. Howell, Esq. ...	2	0	0
D. C. Lloyd Owen, Esq., Birmingham	1	1	0
J. Dugdale, Esq. ...	£1	1	0
Rev. R. J. Roberts, M.A. ..	1	1	0
Elijah Pryce, Esq. ...	1	1	0
R. Williams, Esq. ...	1	1	0
T. B. Barrett, Esq. ...	1	1	0
R. D. Pryce, Esq. ...	1	1	0
Capt. Mytton	1	1	0
Mrs. Curling	1	1	0
William Jones, Esq. ...	1	1	0
Archdeacon Ffoulkes ...	1	1	0
Col. G. E. Herbert ...	1	1	0
Capt. John Jones, R.N. ...	1	1	0
G. E. Cokayne, Esq., *Norroy*	1	1	0
Stanley Leighton, Esq. ...	1	1	0
Rev. F. W. Parker, M.A. ...	1	1	0
Evan Powell, Esq. ...	1	1	0
Mrs. Felix	1	1	0
Dr. Robinson	1	1	0
Rev. W. V. Lloyd, M.A. ...	1	1	0
Rev. Canon Wynne Edwards	1	1	0
Mrs. Fisher (Trowscoed) ...	1	1	0
A. C. Humphreys-Owen, Esq.	1	0	0
E. J. Bebb, Esq.	1	0	0
Samuel Powell, Esq. ...	1	0	0
A. W. Black, Esq. ...	1	0	0
Mrs. Price, Marrington Hall	1	0	0
Edward Evans, Esq. ...	1	0	0
Edward Morgan, Esq. ...	1	0	0
E. G. Phillimore, Esq. ..	1	0	0
Rev. E. L. Barnwell, M.A.	0	10	6
T. Morgan Owen, Esq. ...	0	10	6
D. Morgan, Esq.	0	10	6
Lewis Lewis, Esq. ...	0	10	6
Rev. W. C. E. Kynaston ...	0	10	6
John Jones, Esq., Oswestry	0	10	6
Rev. Preb. Matthews ...	0	10	6
E. Colt Williams, Esq. ...	0	10	6
E. S. Mostyn Pryce, Esq....	0	10	6
T. Newill, Esq.	0	10	6
The Bishop of St. Asaph ...	0	10	0
Professor Babington ...	0	10	0
C. W. Jones, Esq., his honorary services as Architect.			
A Friend, two Grates and Mantel Pieces.			

The Powys-Land Club exchange publications with the following Literary Societies, viz. :—

The Society of Antiquaries of Scotland, Royal Institution, Edinburgh.

The British Archæological Association, 32, Sackville Street, Piccadilly.

The Royal Archæological Institute of Great Britain and Ireland, Oxford Mansions, Oxford Street.

The Cambrian Archæological Association, 30 and 32, Sardinia Street, Lincoln's Inn Fields, London, W.C.

The Royal Historical and Archæological Association of Ireland (Rev. J. Graves, Inisnag, Stoneyford, Kilkenny, Hon. Sec.).

The London and Middlesex Archæological Society (G. H. Birch, Esq., Hon. Sec., 9, Buckingham Street, Strand, London.)

The Surrey Archæological Society, 8, Danes Inn, Strand, London.

The Yorkshire Archæological and Topographical Society (G. H. Tomlinson, Esq., Huddersfield).

The Birmingham and Midland Institute, Birmingham.

The Berwickshire Naturalist Club (James Hardy, Esq., Old Cambus, Cocksburnspath).

The Honourable Society of Cymmrodorion, London (Secretary, C. W. Jones, Esq., Local Government Board, London).

The Cambridge Antiquarian Society (Rev. S. S. Lewis, F.S.A., Corpus Christi College, Secretary).

The Chester Archæological Society (T. Hughes, Esq., F.S.A., Secretary).

The Literary and Philosophical Society of Liverpool (Royal Institution, Liverpool).

The Essex Archæological Society (H. W. King, Esq., Leigh Hill, Leigh, Essex, Secretary).

The Royal Institution of Cornwall (J. H. Collins, Esq., Truro).

The Sussex Archæological Society (John Edward Price, Esq., 60, Albion Road, Stoke Newington, London, Secretary).

The Suffolk Institute of Archæological and Natural History (Edward Deering, Esq., Bury St. Edmunds).

The Worcester Diocesan Architectural and Archæological Society (J. H. Hooper, Esq., College Green, Worcester, Secretary).

The Wiltshire Archæological Society (Rev. H. A. Olivier, Museum, Devizes).

The Shropshire Archæological and Natural History Society (W. H. Adnitt, Esq., The Museum, Salop, Secretary).

The Leicester Literary and Philosophical Society, Leicester.

The Somersetshire Archæological and Natural History Society (The Castle, Taunton).

The Smithsonian Institution, Washington, U.S.A. (S. Baird, Esq., Assistant-Secretary).

The Bristol and Gloucester Archæological Society (P. Hallet, Esq., Hon. Secretary, Claverton Lodge, Bath).

The Glasgow Philosophical Society, Glasgow.

OBITUARY OF MEMBERS OF THE POWYS-LAND CLUB.

1869.

Jan. 29. Charles Thomas Woosnam, Esq., Newtown.
May 23. Edward Williams, Esq., Lloran House, Oswestry.

1870.

May 15. Major-General Charles Thomas Edward Hinde.
Oct. 30. Rev. John Edwards, M.A., Rector of Newtown.
Nov. 16. Rev. Harry Longueville Jones, M.A.

1871.

Feb. 26. Sir Baldwin Leighton, Bart., Loton Park, Salop.
Mar. 3. Edward Evans, Esq., Thorneloe House, Worcester.
Mar. 24. Price Buckley Williames, Esq., Pennant.
April 24. George Woosnam, Esq., Newtown.
June 21. William Pryce Yearsley, Esq., Welshpool.
July 23. Arthur James Johnes, Esq., Garthmyl.
Dec. 5. John Pryce Drew, Esq., Milford House, Newtown.
Dec. 12. Rev. Joseph Jones, R.C. Church, Welshpool.

1872.

April 28. Robert Maurice Bonnor Maurice, Esq., Bodynfol.

1873.

Sept. 4. Rev. Robert John Harrison, M.A., Caerhowel.
Nov. 13. John Gough Nichols, Esq., F.S.A.

1874.

April 10. Robert Devereux Harrison, Esq., Fronllwyd, Welshpool.
Nov. 25. R. H. Sturkey, Esq., Meifod.

1875.

Aug. 11. Edward Williams, Esq., of Neuadd faben, Talgarth.
Nov. 4. Thomas Bowen, Esq., Welshpool.

1876.

Jan. 5. Mrs. Ann Warburton Owen, Glansevern.
Feb. 10. Joseph Owen Jones, Esq., Fron-y-gog.
May 26. Thomas Taylor Griffith, Esq., Wrexham.
June 15. John Ralph, first Lord Harlech, Brogynton, Oswestry.
June 18. Rev. John Judge, Leighton Vicarage, Welshpool.

1877.

Rev. Canon Jenkins, Llangyniew Rectory, Welshpool.
April 28. Sudeley, Lord Sudeley *(Vice-President)*.

1878.

June 8. The Ven. Archdeacon Morgan, M.A.
Aug. 5. Joseph Humphreys, Esq., The Court, Dogpole, Shrewsbury.
Dec. 5. Thomas Owen Morgan, Esq., of Aberystwith.

1879.

Mar. 28. Rev. Robert Jones, B.A., All Saints', Rotherhithe.
April 29. Rev. Jenkin Jones, M.A., Rector of Cerrig y Druidion.
Aug. 3. Rev. Thomas James, LL.D., F.S.A.
Dec. 12. Rev. J. J. Turner, M.A.

1880.

Jan. 28. Rev. F. H. Thomas, Vicar of Chirk, aged 75.
Mar. 5. Rev. D. Pritchard Pritchard of Ceniarth.
April 22. Miss Hinde-Lloyd of Bath.
June 9. Watkin Williams Edward Wynne, Esq., of Peniarth, aged 79.

1881.

Feb. 22. Miss Jane Davies of Penmaen Dovey.
Mar. 10. Edward Breese, Esq., F.S.A., of Pwllheli.
April 22. John Sides Davies, Esq., M.R.C.S., of Oswestry.
April 26. Rev. Canon Robert Williams, M.A.
Nov. 25. Mrs. Pugh-Johnson, Llanerchydol.

1882.

Feb. 24. Rev. Canon David Williams, Castle Caereinion.
Mar. 26. Lewis R. Price, Esq., 117, St. George's Square, London.
May 6. Rev. Joseph McIntosh, M.A., Llanerfyl.
Nov. 3. John Maurice Herbert, Esq., Rocklands, Ross.

1883.

Jan. 28. Charles Perrin Smith, Esq., Trenton, Pennsylvania.
Mar. 12. Rev. Prebendary Davies, M.A., Moor Court, Kington.
April 27. Thomas Edye, Esq., London, aged 92.
July 15. John Beattie, Esq., Shortwood, Teddington Park, Middlesex.

POWYS-LAND SCHOOL OF ART,

WELSHPOOL,

IN CONNECTION WITH THE POWYS-LAND MUSEUM AND LIBRARY.

"ON THE ADVANTAGES OF DRAWING."

Extract from an ADDRESS by RICHARD BURCHETT, ESQ., "ON THE CENTRAL TRAINING SCHOOL FOR ART", published by the Science and Art Department, South Kensington.

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IT might be considered a fitting introduction to my subject that I should endeavour to prove logically, and to place beyond dispute the opinion, that it is desirable and for the nation's benefit that Instruction in Art should be diffused as widely as possible, and that drawing should form a part of general education.

But I believe that the subject upon which I am about to address you, the constantly increasing demand for and the spread of elementary instruction in drawing, is a proof of this, stronger and more cogent than any others that I could offer; so that I hesitate to detain you by this preliminary matter, wishing to pass rather to an explanation of what is doing or has been done to supply a want so strongly felt, than to detain you by an endeavour to prove the desirability of doing it.

But as this subject addresses itself to three distinct classes of minds—the general educator, those interested in the developments of our manufactures and trades, and those who, loving Art for its own sake, desire to cultivate a love of it in others; and as the first class have but newly entered into the subject, it may not be out of place to make some few remarks upon the utility of making drawing a part of general education concurrently with writing.

One great object of all education must be, and is, to *draw out* or develop the faculties; and, perhaps, the highest class of education may safely be said to be that which concerns itself most with such a training of the mind as shall enable it to perceive and work for itself, disciplining the mental faculties to become acute and powerful; while a far lower and less

efficient mode of teaching is that which contents itself with cramming the receptive faculties of the mind, loading the memory of the student with knowledge (if it may be called such) which he is never taught to use; and which, confused and mentally undigested, weakens rather than strengthens the mind.

Although in this age of independence and self-government it may sound strange to speak of the parental authority of Government, at least to attach any real meaning to the term, there can be no doubt, that a nation must be only a large family, or else it is a mere band of adventurers bound together by no permanent tie; it is a planet revolving regularly in its orbit, the parts of which it is composed being made to cohere the more closely by its revolutions, or it is a chaotic mass, every movement of which serves only still more to disintegrate the parts, and to detach them from each other. Now, the prosperity of a family is best secured by the careful training in knowledge and power of each of its members, and a wise father seeks to develop thoroughly the intellectual and physical powers of each of his children, and to fit them for such stations as he may wish them to fill, to prepare them for any emergency which he may possibly foresee, and to give them every power which may be necessary to their future progress; and he does this, not only from a sense of duty or pleasure, but it is also dictated by self-interest. And if this is the case in the family, it certainly is not less so in the nation. And, at the present time, nothing can be of more importance to this country than that every one of its children should have the best moral, physical, and intellectual training that their circumstances can be made to enable them to receive. For the *intellect* of a country can hardly be of less importance than its *minerals*, although the latter seem to be more decidedly recognized as *wealth*, and as deserving of development. And this simile of the family holds good in another sense; for not only is it important for the general advancement that each should be thoroughly educated, but if this is not the case, those that are not so will in time become an incubus upon those that are, and the more highly qualified will find themselves a prey to the neglected.

The moral and intellectual development of our people is undoubtedly the great social problem of the present day; the development of every faculty, and then the turning those faculties to the best account possible. And every invention in mechanics which supersedes the labour of men's hands, declares in unmistakeable language the necessity for cultivating and employing their intellects; and it is thus only that society can

receive the full benefit of modern science, when men shall hear and understand its voice saying, "Go up higher."

Now, without wishing to attach an undue value to drawing, I believe it likely to exercise a not unimportant part in education in a moral, intellectual, and physical, or at least *manual* point of view; and, if this be the case, it must be evident that it is an important agent in what we agree to consider a matter of vital importance at the present time—the general education of the people.

It is a very common error to regard drawing as an *end* and not as a *means* in education, and this opinion has arisen from the manner in which it has too often been taught in schools, where it has been, perhaps, the most unreal of all the unrealities; a child has been set to copy a drawing or lithograph of, it may be, a picturesque pigsty, or some very dilapidated building, the indefinite and unprecise forms of which become still more vague and characterless in his hands, a few finishing touches from the teacher complete the work which has occupied much time, cost some money, and not imparted a single idea, or given the germ of any power. And if it be asked, What is the use of learning "this sort of thing"? the answer may safely be, "None at all;" but this is not even teaching *copying*, much more drawing.

Regarded aright, drawing, in general education, is the most potent means for developing the perceptive faculties, teaching the student to see correctly and to understand what he sees. Drawing, if well taught, is the constant practice of the analysis of forms. And by this practice the *eye* is quickened and rendered incomparably more accurate; and as the eye is the most open and ready road through which knowledge passes to the mind, the full development of its powers can be a matter of no small importance to all; in this respect then, as an educator of the *eye*, drawing is a most valuable means, irrespective of any service that the power may be of in itself. But there is another faculty engaged in this study, that one which distinguishes man from the cleverest of the animals—the *hand* is employed, and it is also educated and trained to be more completely under the control of the will than by any other exercise it can be set to; it acquires a delicacy of movement and a refinement of power which no other discipline can impart, and which fits it more completely to perform its varied and delicate functions.

Two faculties, therefore, the perceptive and the reproductive, and those the most in demand and of universal application, are especially developed by education in drawing. The *eye* is

taught to *see* all objects more correctly, the *hand* is trained to *do* everything more precisely.

Drawing, therefore, is a most valuable discipline in early education, if it be viewed merely as a means of development of the faculties, and one equally fitted for all ranks and both sexes, and this must be constantly borne in mind as one of the causes of its utility—that it teaches to *see* and to *do* all things more perfectly; that it is a development of the general intellect of the country in an eminently practical direction.

In the present advanced state of mechanical science, hardly a week passes that the labour of men's hands is not to some extent superseded by machinery; and as this state of things progresses, so must the mind of the people be made to keep in advance of mere mechanical powers, or inevitably sink below them. Man must be the ruling and directing master of machinery, or he will become its slave. Every new invention in mechanics which supersedes the labour of men's hands renders more imperative the cultivation of their intellects, or masses of men will be thrown a mere drug, if one may use such an expression, upon the market of labour; less useful because less certain, and less under control, than their rivals of iron and brass, which know no wants and have no wills. But this very increase of the physical powers of a nation points imperatively to the development of powers which are often dormant in man, and which, admitting of no rivalry in machines, make not only an addition to the resources of the country, but extend the benefits conferred by mechanical science. In a philanthropic point of view, therefore, it is most desirable to extend the teaching of drawing to the greatest possible extent; and this is not the only value of this education in connection with mechanical science—by the wide diffusion of mechanical powers thousands become more interested in their use, and a greater knowledge of them demanded, now they can only be well used when well understood, and in this drawing will be found a potent auxiliary—in a few years it is probable that a large proportion of our farm labour will be performed by machinery demanding a knowledge of it by those who use it, and freeing a large amount of labour for other channels. Drawing will be of the greatest value, therefore, to all the agricultural population, and it is not too much to say, that the diffusion of this kind of education may tend in no small degree to avert evils in a future day that have heretofore been heavily felt in this country, when mechanical and animal power have been strongly put in opposition.

There can be no doubt, therefore, but that drawing, if properly taught, is a most efficient means of developing the perceptive powers of the mind, and of the greatest use to all, for it may be truly said, that *no one can know forms or objects thoroughly, who cannot draw them*, and that no one *does* know any form or object thoroughly until he has drawn it. This assertion *may* be doubted by those who cannot draw; it will *never* be by those who can.

In all teaching of drawing what is the first and greatest difficulty to be overcome? The imperfect power of seeing. The student has to be taught to *see correctly;* in the most advanced stages of instruction in drawing the eye still lags behind, and a student readily corrects his errors when he is taught to *see* them.

Education in drawing, then, will confer a power of seeing more correctly, of knowing more truly the forms and objects by which we are surrounded or with which we come into occasional contact; it will be a draught from the well of truth, and as we *know* more of the objects which we see before and around us we shall *love* more; and what can be a more fitting subject for the study of youth, of whatever condition or sex, than one which teaches them to admire and respect the works of the Creator of all things, whether emanating directly from His own hand or manifested through the agency of His creature—their fellow-man? It is, perhaps, impossible to realize the different appearance which the world presents to the educated and the uneducated eye; and yet, great as this difference is, every lesson, every attempt to draw, will decrease it, and some slight glimpse into this world of glory is afforded for every effort.

But it may be said that however desirable it may be to give this instruction early in life alike to all, it is impossible, from want of time and its interference with other studies which are regarded as more indispensable. But in order that this argument should be valid, it must be proved that instruction in drawing not only interferes with other studies, but that the time it takes from them is absolutely lost to them; but this is not so; on the contrary, instruction in drawing is found to be most helpful in many of the ordinary studies of all schools. What would be thought of a school where the children were not taught to write? And yet what is writing but the drawing of a series of arbitrary signs, and what an amount of time is necessary to draw them well. The art of writing is, in fact, nothing but drawing from memory. To the study of writing, then, the practice of drawing must be very helpful, and experience has shown the truth of this theory. The one or two

hours a week devoted to drawing have been found of more advantage to writing than the same time devoted to it; and this may be readily understood on another ground—a child tires by constantly repeating the same letters, his best effort to imitate his copy is most frequently his first in the day's exercise, and he then goes on repeating and aggravating his own errors until they too often culminate in the last line of the copy; but in drawing it is not so, the copying is constant, but the copy is different in every part, the attention is kept alive by the greater care demanded, the faculty of imitation is more rapidly acquired, and by the exercise of this imitative faculty, even the writing lesson is brought much nearer the original copy. Great difficulties had to be encountered in many cases in introducing drawing into National and parochial schools, great complaints made of its interference, etc.; yet such a change has been wrought that it is now universally considered an advantage to the other studies of the school: schools which commenced with classes of twenty or thirty now number their students by two and three hundred, and drawing is found to be a useful *introduction to the practice of writing*.

But apart from these desirable influences on general education, how important it is that children should acquire early in life the germ of any knowledge which may be of use to them later in their day, that they should both acquire a taste for, and remove some of those obstacles from, those studies to which it may be advantageous, either in youth or manhood, to direct their attention!

What complaint is more constant than that our workmen are uneducated, inferior in this respect to the same class on the Continent—and perhaps it is so. But what is the workman's excuse? That he is too old now to go to school; that the hours spared from labour are necessary for repose; that his hands are stiff from toil; and he does not like to be "a child once more."

Remove this plea therefore—the population of our schools furnish the occupants of our workshops; commence the education in the school, and when the boy leaves it to enter the workshop he will at once feel the value of the little power he possesses; this feeling will induce him to cultivate it; he will attend a school on some of his evenings, and by degrees and through these steps you will obtain a well-educated class of workmen. Is it nothing to have implanted in the mind of the child this desire for future knowledge that operates in furnishing him with intellectual employment and pleasure, joined with profit, in one and the same study? and will this exercise no influence upon the morals?

I advance these reasons then as so many pleas for making education in drawing a part of the school course of every child, and I address them to those who interest themselves in general education alone, and view it only as it affects the moral and material interests of the people.

It may be said that much that I have stated does not apply to females, and that in girls' schools drawing can exercise but little influence on the occupations of their after-life; but this is much less true than at first may be thought, and setting out all the numerous class of women who live by their labour, and to a large number of whom drawing is as valuable as to any, it will be found to confer advantages upon all; habits of order and precision will be acquired, and the girl who has been taught drawing in her school will have one element in her character towards forming a good housekeeper.

There is one other point on which I wish to say a few words —the value of drawing as an universal language. How impossible it is often found to convey any clear impression to the mind of another by a merely verbal description of an object, when in a few minutes a very moderately instructed hand will, by means of a sketch or sketches, convey an accurate and unmistakeable idea to the mind of another. Now this is a want which all may feel, and it can only be supplied to the people generally as a portion of ordinary education. The education of an artist is not required for it, any more than that a person should be a master of *penmanship* in order to make his writing intelligible to his fellows; but some amount of drawing power, coupled with that clear idea in the mind of what the object is like, which drawing so materially tends to give, will be sufficient to save much time and many errors, particularly when both the parties understand the language of form.

I have dwelt thus upon the importance of drawing as a part of general education, from a conviction that, like the old adage, which says, "If you take care of the pence the pounds will look after themselves," so I believe if drawing can once be placed in its right position in primary education, that more advanced instruction, whether adapted to the requirements of the artisan and manufacturer, or to the more extended desires of the lover of art, will never need advocates or want pupils.

* * * * *

And thus it was, when the attention of the Government of the country was aroused to the fact that a greater diffusion of the knowledge of the art of design was necessary to the safety of our manufactures, in their competition with the productions of other countries, that it was resolved to establish *Government Schools of Design.* But as the most conclusive argument

in this matter had been the balance sheet of the merchant and the manufacturer, it was only probable that their interests, or rather those of manufacture, would form the most prominent subject of consideration—and *it was so.*

From the first establishment of the Schools of Design their object was not the stimulation of a general love of art amongst the people, nor the furnishing all classes of the community with that kind of instruction in drawing which bore upon their particular trades, but it was avowedly the education of designers for manufactures; and to this end were all the efforts of the authorities and the studies of the schools directed and limited.

But the attempt to establish a School of Design was the first great proof of the necessity of establishing *Schools of Drawing;* and this, with perhaps a solitary exception, they became, that is, *Schools of Drawing with a limited range of study.*

However, in the fulness of time the conviction of the few, that in order to obtain the realisation of the objects of the schools the education should commence earlier and be spread wider, became the opinion of the many; and after the Exhibition of 1851, on the formation of the Department of Practical Art, the Government first proposed to itself the task of diffusing education in drawing and the elementary practice of art as widely as possible amongst the people, and it especially sought to commence in the child the work it hoped to complete in the adult.

The work it undertook was—To make elementary drawing a part of general education, offering to all some knowledge of the language of form as well as of the language of ideas.—To supply to the mechanic and the artisan that kind of drawing power of which he himself felt the need, hoping to induce him to feel the desirability of obtaining still more, and to lead him to become the well instructed producer of the ideas of others. To the art-workman and the public generally it offered a complete education in art, extending its studies over the widest field and endeavouring to make each step in its education complete and thorough, embracing all that could be required in an art education, and including, besides, the systematic study and practice of ornamental art and of various studies bearing only upon it.

But before it could be possible to diffuse over the country such an education as this, embracing so wide and varied a range of studies, it would be evident that teachers must be found with qualifications different in kind and degree from those usually possessed by ordinary art teachers.

To secure this object the *Training School* was established, in order *to teach as students* and *train as teachers* those who should thus be enabled to disseminate this widely based and extensive course of education throughout the country; and to an exposition of the course of instruction and methods of study pursued in this school, and to some remarks upon some of its results, it is now my duty to address myself.

[Mr. Burchett then enters into an elaborate and interesting exposition of the objects, designs, and working of the Training School, after which he concludes his address as follows:—]

I believe in the desirability of doing this [the diffusing of a greater knowledge of the love for Art] for the advantage of the country merely in a mercantile point of view, and that this object deserves the liberal support of the Government and the nation from this cause.

But I believe, also, that the diffusion of Art knowledge and Art power may appeal to national support on other and higher gounds, and that its true value is not to be estimated by *tables* which are supposed to show "The progress of the nation."

To one in whose nature a deep and true love of Art is implanted (and without this no one can be a true artist) Art becomes almost a holy thing, something to be dedicated to noble aims, and not to be trailed in the mire and the dirt of mere displays of pomp and vanity; a something that should minister to the pleasures or purposes of the *soul*, and not merely play the agreeable to the senses.

By such a one the extension of these schools is viewed in a different manner; he dwells with hope upon the results they may have upon the general feeling for Art, and the love of its manifestations upon the people of this country. He believes that they are one step in the furtherance of that hope that will arrive at fruition when one of the noblest gifts of God shall be worthily devoted to His service; when the noble deeds and thoughts of the great and good men of all times, all countries, and of all faiths, may find worthy expositors and appreciating audiences; when in this our country, Art, standing noble and aloft before all men, drawing to itself the noblest intellects and the purest feelings, may appeal to all, and in a voice that shall find a universal echo in all hearts, say, it is my mission to speak to your souls through your senses,—to cause your hearts to flame or melt, but always to noble ends; and to speak universal and eloquent language, only the more effectively to disseminate great deeds and noble thoughts.

ROADS, BRIDGES, CANALS, AND RAILWAYS IN MONTGOMERYSHIRE.

By A. HOWELL, Rhiewport.

(*Continued from Vol.* xv, *p.* 116.)

V.

In our last article we referred to the difference existing between this and other counties generally in regard to the maintenance of their old bridges, such bridges in Montgomeryshire being maintained by sub-divisions of the county and not by the entire county; and we pointed out as the reason of such difference, that until the twenty-seventh year of Henry VIII, when Montgomeryshire and the other border counties were constituted by Act of Parliament, they must have been so maintained of necessity; and, although that Act provided that the laws applicable to other parts of the kingdom should thenceforth apply to Wales, yet the districts continued to repair them as before; and the question of the liability, as between those subordinate districts and the county, does not appear to have attracted much attention, until the roads came to be improved, on the introduction of the Turnpike Laws into the county, in the latter part of last and the commencement of the present century. The county could be relieved from the liability to maintain those bridges only by showing that the subordinate districts were liable to maintain them by *prescription;* that is, that they had, contrary to the general obligation, repaired them "from time immemorial". All the available evidence went to support that liability, with one exception, namely, that the obligation of the county could com-

mence only on its becoming a county, which was some three hundred years after the theoretical commencement of "the period of legal memory". When the necessity for improved bridges came so to be felt, the question arose in all its force, and that led to the appointment, by the Magistrates at Quarter Sessions, of a committee to investigate and report upon the best mode of dealing with the question. The chairman of that committee was the late Mr. Panton Corbett, then of Leighton, and afterwards of Longnor, who was afterwards the Chairman of the Montgomeryshire, and, subsequently, of the Shropshire Quarter Sessions. On the 15th of July 1819, the Committee presented their Report, from which the following are extracts:—

"In their consideration of this part of the subject, the Committee in the first place directed their attention to the question, which they discovered to have been frequently agitated, whether in fact the districts are liable, in point of law, to maintain the bridges to the repair of which they have been held subject. The Committee were not without an expectation, from the peculiar circumstances of the case, that there would not be found any legal obligation upon the districts to this repair, and they were a good deal confirmed in this conclusion by the opinions of several eminent lawyers, taken previous to their appointment, which they have had an opportunity of perusing. The Committee do not think it necessary to enter into a statement of this question . . . they have referred to it, as being one of importance in the consideration of the subject before them, and for the purpose of stating the reasons why they have deemed it expedient, upon such grounds, either to recommend to the county to take upon itself, unconditionally, the whole repair of the bridges, or to the districts to dispute their liability thereto. It was at first thought that the decision of a Court of law in one case, would determine the question as it respected every other. It appeared, however, not only extremely doubtful what that decision would be in any case; but that the case of each bridge depended upon its own circumstances, and would not affect that of any other in a great degree. A wide field of litigation would thus be opened, the probable, indeed, the almost certain issue of which would be the non-attainment of the object in view. It seemed, therefore, an infinitely more proper course to endea-

vour to obtain, upon fair and equitable terms, the concurrence of all parties to a measure, than to involve the county in the heat, expense, and confusion of long and probably fruitless litigation. The Committee have kept altogether out of view, in their consideration of those terms, the question to which they have just alluded; they conceive it, however, to be deserving the serious attention of such persons as may be inclined to oppose any departure from the present system.[1]

"In the course of their inquiry into the state of the district bridges, the attention of the Committee has been called by several of its members to the expediency of altering the situation of some bridges, beyond the limits at present allowed by law, and of altogether taking away others. It has been represented that the bridge over the Severn at Newtown could conveniently be erected in a situation lower down the river, where it would answer its present purpose as well as afford a means of communication between the head of the western branch of the Montgomeryshire Canal and the country on the south side of the river; and that if such alteration is made, the proprietors of the western branch of the canal would contribute towards the expense of building a new bridge, as they would be relieved from the necessity of erecting, themselves, a bridge across the Severn at Newtown. It has also been stated that the expense, which is considerable, from the great width of the river at that place, of maintaining the Long Bridge across the Severn at Llanidloes, might be altogether saved by altering the approach to that town on the north-east side, and erecting a small bridge over the Clywedog River.

"The Committee have not thought it incumbent upon them to enter into any investigation of these cases, or to pronounce any opinion upon the measures suggested; they, however, recommend, in the event of an application to Parliament on account of the district bridges, that powers should be introduced into the Act enabling the magistrates assembled in

[1] The bridges at that time, in some of the hundreds, were built wholly with stone, in others partly with stone and partly with timber, the greater part with timber only; and some of the districts had within the last preceding year built several new stone bridges at very considerable expense; and there were others on the most public roads which greatly required to be rebuilt, but as the expense would fall very heavily on the districts, it was delayed. This appears to have exercised considerable influence in bringing about the results which took place.

Quarter Sessions, under proper provisions for the indemnification of private property and the general convenience, to carry such measures into execution if they appear to them expedient."

The Committee appended a schedule to their report, prepared by the late Mr. Penson, then newly appointed County Surveyor, stating that at that time there were seventy-seven bridges in the county, of which number there were repaired by the county twenty-five, and the other fifty-two by subordinate districts; being, by different hundreds, twenty-four; by hundreds and parishes in other hundreds combined, four; by parishes, fifteen; by townships, four; by the town of Pool (by Charter), two; and by the town of Llanfyllin (by Charter), the remaining three. The schedule also comprised a list of the fifty-two, giving their names, situation, condition, by whom repaired, the estimated cost of repairs and of rebuilding such as required it, and other particulars.[1]

In the next following Session of Parliament the Local Montgomeryshire Bridge Act, 1 George IV, c. 7, was passed, namely, on the 23rd June 1820. We have already given the preamble and a summary of the provisions of that Act,[2] its object being to authorise compromises between the county and the subordinate districts at the option of the latter, as to the question of liability in respect of any particular bridge or bridges, and to promote the improvement of the bridges. It also, following the suggestions of the

[1] It does not appear which the twenty-five bridges were, nor when or how they became county bridges, but it does appear that in consequence of opinions of counsel, including one by Mr., afterwards Chief Baron, Richards, taken in 1787 by the late Mr. Edmund Edye, the father of the present Mr. Thomas Edye, he, Mr. Edmund Edye, was successfully employed on the part of some of the districts in resisting their liability; and some fifty years ago he several times expressed his views upon the question in conversations with the writer. Probably the others were bridges erected for the first time after 1803, in accordance with the Act of that year, or bridges previously built within living memory but which had required repairs.

[2] *Mont. Coll.*, vol. xv, p. 107.

Committee, gave power where any bridges were composed, in the whole or in part, of timber, or in the opinion of the Magistrates at Quarter Session were built on insufficient foundations, or were inconveniently situated, to rebuild the bridges on any new sites within five hundred yards of the former ones, and of such materials as to them should seem meet. As already mentioned, the districts at once availed themselves of the provisions of the Act in a great many cases; and the rebuilding by the county of many of the bridges followed.

The law applicable to the Montgomeryshire bridges afterwards remained unaltered until the passing of the General Highway Act of 1835, 5 and 6 William IV, c. 50, which took effect from the 20th March 1836. By Common law, as declared and defined by the Bridges Act of the 22 of Henry VIII, sec. 9 of which applies to the approaches to the bridges, the counties are liable to repair, to the extent of three hundred feet, the highway at each end of the bridges; but by sec. 21 of the above-mentioned Act of 1835, it was provided, that if any bridge should thereafter be built, which bridge should be liable by law to be repaired by and at the expense of any county, all highways leading to, passing over, and next adjoining to such bridge should be repaired by the parish, person, or trustees of a turnpike road, who were by law before the erection of the bridge bound to repair such highways. Sec. 116, however, enacts that that Act "shall not extend to alter or in any manner affect the provisions of the Montgomeryshire Bridges Act, so far as the same relates to the repairs of so much of the highways as lies next adjoining to any ends of bridges in the county of Montgomery, the repair of which has already been made chargeable upon the rates of the county under the provisions of that Act."[1]

By the Annual Turnpike Acts' Continuance Act, 1870, 33 and 34 Vic., c. 73, sec. 12, where turnpike

[1] It does not appear that this section was needed; the effect appears to be the same without it.

roads shall have become ordinary highways by the expiration of the Turnpike Acts, all bridges which were previously repaired by the trustees of such turnpike roads shall become county bridges, and be kept in repair accordingly, but shall be treated as if built subsequently to the passing of the Act of 1835, above referred to. And by the Highways and Locomotives (Amendment) Act, 1878, 41 and 42 Vic., c. 77, sec. 21, any bridge erected before the passing of that Act in any county without such superintendence as was provided in the Act of 1803, and which is certified by the County Surveyor, or other person appointed in that behalf, to be in good repair and condition, shall, if the County authority shall see fit so to order, become and be deemed to be a bridge which the inhabitants of the county shall be liable to maintain and repair; and by section 22, that the County authority may make such contribution as they shall see fit out of the county rates, towards the cost of any bridge to be thereafter erected, if the same shall be certified, in accordance with the Act of 1803, as a proper bridge to be maintained by the inhabitants of the county, so that such contribution shall not exceed one half the cost of erecting such bridge.

In our last article[1] we gave some account of the erection of two of the County Bridges under Special Acts of Parliament, applicable to those bridges. We will now give a list of all the bridges the maintenance of which is now chargeable to the county, with some of the incidents relating to each.

1. *Abel Bridge.*—A stone bridge over the brook Abel at Llanfyllin, formerly repaired by the parish of Llanfyllin. It became a County Bridge under the Montgomeryshire Local Bridge Act on 5th September 1822, the payment by the parish being £127, by forty quarterly instalments.

2. *Aberfrwdlan Bridge.*—A stone bridge over a tributary of the Dovey in the parish of Llanwrin, on

[1] *Mont. Coll.*, vol. xv, p. 108.

the road from Llanwrin to Machynlleth. It became a County Bridge under the general law.

3. *Aberbechan* or *Culgwrgan Bridge.*—A new stone bridge over the Severn and the Montgomeryshire Canal on the new road from the Welshpool and Newtown turnpike road to Culgwrgan, Bettws and Tregynon ; erected in accordance with the Act of 1803 by the Trustees of that road under "The Cilgwrgan, Bettws and Tregynon Road Act, 1860", 23 and 24 Vic. This being after the year 1836, the county is not liable to the repair of the approaches, but they are to be maintained as the rest of the road is.

4. *Aberbechan Old Bridge.*—In the Parish of Llanllwchaiarn ; over the Bechan, on the road from Aberbechan to Newtown. Became a County Bridge in 1855, under the Local Act, by payment by that parish of £84 14*s.*, in twenty instalments. It was soon afterwards rebuilt of stone.

5. *Abergwydol Bridge.*—A new stone bridge over the Gwydol, a tributary of the Dovey, on the road between Machynlleth and Cemmes in the parish of Darowen. It became a County Bridge under the Local Act on 15th January 1829. It was formerly maintained by that parish, and the payment under the Act was £385 16*s.* 8*d.*, in forty quarterly instalments. It was afterwards re-erected by the county concurrently with an improvement of the road by the Turnpike Trustees.

6. *Aberhiriaeth Bridge.*—Over a tributary of the Dovey on the turnpike road between Cemmes and Mallwyd in the parish of Cemmes. It became a County Bridge under the general law, and was rebuilt by the county with stone in 1835.

7. *Abermule Bridge.*—Over the Mule brook on the road from Newtown to Welshpool, in the parish of Llanmerewig. It became a County Bridge under the Local Act on the 18th of August 1827. It was formerly repaired by the parishes of Llanmerewig and Llandyssil. The payment by those parishes was £266, by twenty in-

stalments. It was soon afterwards rebuilt with stone by the county.

8. *Bausley Bridge.*—At Alberbury, on the road from Llandrinio to Shrewsbury. It became a County Bridge under the general law, and was rebuilt of stone in or about 1830.

9. *Berriew Bridge.*—A stone bridge over the river Rhiew in the village of Berriew. It became a County Bridge under the general law.

10. *Bidno Bridge.*—A stone bridge in the parish of Llangurig. It became a County Bridge under the general law.

11. *Bodfach Bridge.*—A stone bridge in the parish of Llanfyllin. Became a County Bridge under the general law.

12. *Brompton Bridge.*—A stone bridge in the parish of Churchstoke. Became a County Bridge under the general law.

13. *Brongwyn Bridge.*—A stone bridge in the parish of Llanfechain. Became a County Bridge under the general law.

14. *Broniarth Bridge.*—Over the Virniew, in the parish of Myfod, on the road from Pool to Myfod. Became a County Bridge under the general law. Was a wooden bridge until 1863, when it was rebuilt of iron girders on stone abutments.

15. *Brookhouse Bridge.*—Stone. On the road from Pool to Guilsfield. Became a County Bridge under the general law.

16. *Brynderwen Bridge.*—Over the Severn, in the parishes of Bettws and Llanmerewig, on the road from Newtown to Welshpool. Became a County Bridge in 1821, under the Local Act. Previously maintained by the Hundred of Newtown, and the payment was £596, in twenty instalments. It was a timber bridge until 1851, when it was carried away by a flood, and afterwards rebuilt, being an iron arch on stone abutments. It was the second iron bridge in the county. The old bridge was some 300 yards lower down.

17. *Bull Bridge.*—A stone bridge, over the Lledan brook, in the town of Pool. Became a County Bridge under the Local Act, on the 18th of July 1822. It was formerly maintained by the town of Pool. The payment under the Act was £169, in forty instalments. It was rebuilt and greatly widened some forty years ago, after an accident caused by its narrowness.

18. *Buttington Bridge.*—Over the Severn, on the Shrewsbury road between Welshpool and Buttington. Became a County Bridge under the Local Act in 1821. It was previously maintained by the Hundred of Caurse; and the payment was £692, in twenty instalments. Until now a wooden bridge; is being re-erected in iron on stone abutments.

19. *Caerhowel Bridge.*—Over the Severn, between Garthmyl and Montgomery. Until 1851 was a wooden bridge; it was then carried away by a flood, and rebuilt as a suspension bridge, on a principle of which the County Surveyor did not approve. It came down soon afterwards, attended with an accident, and was rebuilt in two iron arches on stone abutments and pier. It became a County Bridge, under the Local Act, in 1830. Was previously maintained by the Hundreds of Newtown and Montgomery, and their payment was £624 11*s.* 8*d.*, in forty quarterly instalments.

20. *Caersws Bridge.*—A stone bridge of two arches, over the Severn, between Newtown and Caersws, in the parishes of Llandinam and Llanwnog. It was formerly maintained by those parishes, and became a County Bridge, in 1821, under the Local Act, the contribution being £1,110, in twenty quarterly instalments, and was rebuilt shortly afterwards.

21. *Camnant Bridge.*—Of stone, in the parish of Kerry. It became a County Bridge under the general law.

22. *Cain Bridge.*—Over the river of that name in the parish of Llanfyllin; it was maintained by that parish until 1822, when it became a County Bridge, under the Local Act, the payment being £133, in forty quarterly instalments.

23. *Carno Bridge.*—A stone bridge, in the parish of Carno. Became a County Bridge under the general law.

24. *Castellmoch Bridge,* or *Pontfawr Castellmoch Bridge.*—Of stone, over the Tannat, in the parish of Llanrhaiadr, in the Hundred of Llanfyllin. It was maintained by that Hundred until 1821, when it became a County Bridge under the Local Act.

25. *Cemmes Bridge.*—Of stone, in the parish of Cemmes. Became a County Bridge under the general law.

26. *Churchstoke North Bridge.*—Of stone, at Churchstoke. Became a County Bridge under the general law.

27. *Churchstoke South Bridge.*—Stone. Became a County Bridge under the general law.

28. *Clyfynny Bridge.*—In the parish of Llanidloes, rebuilt with stone in 1838. Became a County Bridge under the general law.

29. *Colwyn Bridge.*—Of stone, in the parish of Myfod. Became a County Bridge under the general law.

30. *Craignant Bridge.*—Of stone, over the Twymin, in the parish of Llanbrynmair. Became a County Bridge under the general law.

31. *Criggion Bridge.*—A stone bridge, in the parish of Alberbury. Became a County Bridge under the general law.

32. *Cwmbelan Bridge.*—Of stone, in the parish of Llangurig. Became a County Bridge under the general law.

33. *Cwm Llinney Bridge.*—Of stone, over a tributary of the Dovey, in the parish of Cemmes. Became a County Bridge under the general law.

34. *Dolanog Bridge.*—Maintained by the parishes of Llanfihangel and Llanfair. At October Session 1821, there was a notice and application to make it a County Bridge, but not proceeded upon.

35. *Dolarddyn Bridge,* on the Castle road.—A stone

bridge, in the parish of Castle Caereinion. Became a County Bridge under the general law.

36. *Dolarddyn Bridge*, on the Llanfair road.—A stone bridge, in the parish of Castle Caereinion. Became a County Bridge under the general law.

37. *Dolobran Bridge.*—A stone bridge, in the parish of Meifod. It became a County Bridge under the general law.

38. *Dolymaen Bridge.*—A stone bridge, on the road from Cannoffice to Mallwyd, in the parish of Garthbeibio. Became a County Bridge under the general law.

39. *Dovey Bridge.*—A stone bridge over the Dovey, near Machynlleth, on the road from that town to Dolgelly and to Aberdovey. It is on the boundary between Montgomeryshire and Merionethshire. The Montgomeryshire half was maintained by the Hundred of Machynlleth until the County became liable to its maintenance, under the Local Act, in 1827. The payment was £250 15*s.*, in forty quarterly instalments.

40. *Dulas Bridge.*—Of stone, over the Dulas brook, in the parish of Newtown, on the road between Newtown and Llanidloes. It became a County Bridge under the general law.

41. *Felindre Bridge.* — Over the Severn, in the parishes of Llanidloes and Llangurig, maintained by those parishes until 1821, when it became a County Bridge under the Local Act; the payment being £311, in forty instalments. Formerly a timber bridge, but rebuilt, in stone, in 1848.

42. *Felingerrig Bridge.*—Near Machynlleth, over the Diflas, in the parishes of Machynlleth and Penegoes; maintained by the town of Machynlleth and parish of Penegoes until it became a County Bridge, under the Local Act, in 1837. Payment, £130 3*s.* 4*d.*, by twenty instalments. A stone bridge recently built.

43. *Fryddfawr Bridge.*—In the parish of Llanbrynmair; of stone. Became a County Bridge under the general law.

44. *Fynnant Bridge.*—Of stone, in the parish of Llandinam. Became a County Bridge under the general law.

45. *Gelligoch Bridge.*—Over the Gelligoch brook, near Machynlleth, on the road to Aberystwith. Became a County Bridge under the Local Act. Rebuilt, with stone, in 1838.

46. *Gilfach Bridge.*—In the parish of Kerry; stone and timber. Became a County Bridge under the general law.

47. *Glanmehely Bridge.*—In the parish of Kerry; stone. Became a County Bridge under the general law.

48. *Glanmule Bridge.*—In the parish of Kerry, over the Mule brook; stone. Became a County Bridge under the general law.

49. *Glanvinion Bridge.*—In the parish of Llandinam; stone. Became a County Bridge under the general law.

50. *Graigwen Bridge.*—In the parish of Llanfair; stone. Became a County Bridge under the general law.

51. *Glyngynwydd Bridge.*—In the parish of Llangurig; stone. Became a County Bridge under the general law.

52. *Heniarth Bridge.*—On the junction of the two roads from Welshpool and Myfod to Llanfair. Was built of stone, with a high embankment upon it, in or about 1835, on a new site, in lieu of two bridges, one on each of those two roads, which became County Bridges, under the Local Act, in 1828. Were previously maintained by the townships of Heniarth and Llangyniew, and the payments were £237 15*s.* and £271 1*s.* 8*d.*

53. *Highgate Bridge.*—In the parish of Bettws; stone. Became a County Bridge under the general law.

54. *Jerrick Bridge.*—In the village of Llangynog, over the Jerrick brook. Was formerly maintained by the

parish of Llangynog, and became a County Bridge, under the Local Act, on application from that parish, 18th October 1821, and payment of £95 15*s.*, by twenty instalments, from 1854 to 1859.

55. *Kilkewydd Bridge.*—Over the Severn, between the parishes of Forden and Pool, on the road from Montgomery by Forden to Welshpool. Formerly maintained by the Hundred of Caurse, and became a County Bridge under the Local Act in 1821, the payment being £383, in twenty instalments. It was timber, until rebuilt with stone, in 1862, by the Oswestry and Newtown Railway Company, the county contributing £2,000 towards the cost.

56. *Little Leighton Bridge.*—On the Leighton road, in the parish of Buttington; stone. Became a County Bridge under the general law.

57. *Leighton Bridge.*—Near Welshpool, over the Severn, on the road from Welshpool to Leighton. Stone and iron, erected by subscription, between August 1871 and March 1872, at a cost of £1,825, in lieu of a dangerous ford causing loss of life. Became a County Bridge under the general law by observance of the Act of 1803. The subscriptions, except £100 contributed by the Turnpike Trustees, were collected by Mr. Thomas Morris, who was Mayor of Welshpool during those two years.

58. *Llandrinio Bridge.*—At Llandrinio, over the Severn, on the road from Llanfyllin to Shrewsbury. A stone bridge, erected under a special Act, with money secured by tolls; and, on the clearing off of the debt, became a County Bridge.

59. *Llandinam Bridge.*—At Llandinam, over the Severn. Rebuilt, in 1843, of iron and stone; being the first iron arch in the county. It became a County Bridge, under the Local Act, in 1822, the parish of Llandinam paying £772, in twenty instalments.

60. *Llanerchymris Bridge.*—At Llansaintffraid, over the Verniew; stone. Became a County Bridge, under the Local Act, on an application from the Hundred of

Pool, in July 1821. Payments, in 1841 to 1850, £280, by forty instalments.

61. *Llanerfyl Bridge.*—At Llanerfyl, over the Einion, on the road to Cannoffice; stone. Became a County Bridge under the Local Act.

62. *Llanfair Bridge.*—At Llanfair, over the Einion; stone. Became a County Bridge, under the Local Act, in 1822, the parishes of Llanfair and Llangyniew paying £284, in twenty instalments.

63. *Llanfechain Bridge.*—At Llanfechain, over the Tannat; stone. Became a County Bridge, under the Local Act, in 1841, previously maintained by the parish of Llanfechain; amount paid, £243, in forty instalments.

64. *Llangadfan Bridge.*—Over the Einion, between Cannoffice and Llangadfan; stone. Became a County Bridge under the Local Act; payment, £388 15*s.* 3*d.*, in forty instalments. Rebuilt of stone in 1846.

65. *Llangynog Bridge.*—In Llangynog parish, over the Tannat. Formerly maintained by the Hundred of Llanfyllin. Became a County Bridge, by the Local Act, under an application from that Hundred, in October 1821, and payment of £132 19*s.* 6*d.*, by twenty instalments, from 1854 to 1859.

66. *Llanidloes Long Bridge.*—At Llanidloes, over the Severn; stone. Maintained by the parishes of Llanidloes and Trefeglwys until 1821, when it became a County Bridge under the Local Act. Those parishes paid £578 in twenty instalments, and it was shortly afterwards rebuilt on a new site lower down.

67. *Llanidloes Short Bridge.*—At Llanidloes, over the Severn; stone. Maintained by the parish of Llanidloes until 1821, when it became a County Bridge under the Local Act; the parish paying £110, in forty instalments. Rebuilt in 1849-50.

68. *Llangurig Bridge.*—At Llangurig, over the Wye; stone. Maintained by the parish of Llangurig until 1850, when it became a County Bridge under the Local Act; the parish paying £214 3*s.* 9*d.*, by forty instalments. Rebuilt in 1854.

69. *Llanrhaiadr Bridge.*—At Llanrhaiadr, over the Cain; stone. Maintained by the parish of Llanrhaiadr until 1854, when it became a County Bridge under the Local Act; the parish paying £106 9*s.*, by twenty instalments.

70. *Llansaintffraid Bridge.*—At Llansaintffraid, over the Virniew; stone. Maintained by the Hundreds of Deythur and Pool until 1821, when it became a County Bridge under the Local Act, those Hundreds paying £381, in twenty instalments.

71. *Llivior Bridge.*—In the parish of Berriew, over the Llivior brook; made of brick. Became a County Bridge under the general law.

72. *Llyfnant Bridge.* — Near Glandovey Railway Station, on the Machynlleth and Aberystwith road, over the Llyfnant brook, in the parish of Machynlleth, and on the boundary of Cardiganshire. A County Bridge under the general law. Rebuilt, with stone, in 1834.

73. *Lower Street Bridge.*—At Llanfyllin, over the Cain; stone. Maintained by the parish of Llanfyllin until 1822, when it became a County Bridge under the Local Act; the parish paying £155, in forty instalments.

74. *Mathrafal Bridge.*—In the parish of Meifod; stone. Became a County Bridge under the general law.

75. *Meheley Bridge.*—In the parish of Kerry; stone. Became a County Bridge under the general law.

76. *Millbrook Bridge.*—Near Buttington, over the Mill brook; stone. Maintained by the Hundred of Caurse until 1821, when it became a County Bridge under the Local Act; the Hundred paying £251, in twenty instalments. Rebuilt in 1833.

77. *Nanthalan Bridge.*—In the parish of Llanfyllin, over the brook Nanthalan. Maintained by that parish until it became a County Bridge in 1822, the payment being £114, in forty instalments.

78. *Nantydugoed Bridge.*—Over the brook of that name, on the road from Cannoffice to Mallwyd; one half

in the parish of Garthbeibio, on the county boundary; chargeable to the county under the general law; the other half is in Merionethshire. Rebuilt in stone in 1839.

79. *Nantyddwyfilltir Bridge.*—In the parish of Darowen. A County Bridge under the general law.

80. *New Bridge, Einion.*—Near Myfod, on the road from Llanfair to Myfod, over the Einion; stone. Became a County Bridge under the Local Act, on an application of 12th July 1821. Rebuilt in 1877.

81. "*New Bridge*", *Llanymynech.*—Near Careghova Canal Aqueduct, over the Verniew, in the parishes of Llanymynech and Llandisilio; stone. Became a County Bridge in 1841, under the Local Act; previously maintained by the Hundred of Deythur. Payment, £641, by twenty instalments.

82. *New Bridge, Mechain.*—Near Myfod, over the Mechain, on the road from Llanfair to Myfod. Maintained by the Hundreds of Pool and Llanfyllin, and the parish of Llangyniew, until it became a County Bridge, under the Local Act, in 1821, the payment being £221, in twenty instalments.

83. *New Mills Bridge.*—Over the Rhiew, at New Mills, in the parish of Manafon; stone. Maintained by that parish until it became a County Bridge, under the Local Act, in 1832, the payment being £203 14*s.* Rebuilt in 1832.

84. *Newtown Long Bridge.*—At Newtown, over the Severn. Maintained by the Hundred of Newtown until it became a County Bridge, under the Local Act, in 1821; the Hundred paying £1,248, in twenty instalments. Rebuilt, about 1820, of freestone; and footpaths, suspended on iron brackets, added in 1857.

85. *Newtown Short Bridge.*—At Newtown, over the Green Brook; stone. Became a County Bridge, under the Local Act, on the 18th of July 1882. Previously maintained by the town and parish of Newtown, and they paid £590, in twenty-six instalments.

86. *Penryllan Bridge.*—In Llandinam; stone. A County Bridge under the general law.

87. *Pentre Bridge.* — In Churchstoke ; stone. A County Bridge under the general law.

88. *Penybontfawr Bridge.*—In the parish of Pennant ; stone, with wood parapets. Maintained by that parish until it became a County Bridge under the Local Act in 1854 ; the payment, £418 1*s.* 6*d.*, in twenty instalments. Rebuilt in 1855.

89. *Pentredulas Bridge.*—In Llangurig, over the Dulas ; stone. Maintained by the parish of Llangurig until 1821, when it became a County Bridge under the Local Act ; the payment being £132, in twenty instalments.

90. *Pentyrch Bridge.*—Between Llanfair and Llanerfyl ; stone. Maintained by the townships of Pentyrch and Rhosaflo until 1830, when it became a County Bridge, under the Local Act, in 1830, the payment being £121 10*s.*, in twenty instalments. Rebuilt in 1831.

91. *Perthincwys Bridge.* — In Carno ; stone. A County Bridge under the general law. Rebuilt, with stone, in 1837.

92. *Pontafongarno Bridge.* — In the parishes of Llanwnog and Trefeglwys. Rebuilt, with stone, in 1835. Became a County Bridge, under the Local Act, in 1821 ; those parishes paying £333, in forty instalments.

93. *Pontbrendano.*—Near Llanfair, on the old road to Melinyddôl ; stone. A County Bridge under the general law. Rebuilt in 1862.

94. *Pontbren Johnson.* — Near Cefngoleu, in the parish of Llanfair, on the old road from Dolarddyn to Llanfair ; stone. A County Bridge under the general law. Rebuilt in 1845.

95. *Pont Cedig Bridge.*—Over the Cedig brook, in the parish of Llanwyddin. Maintained by the Hundred of Llanfyllin until it became a County Bridge, under the Local Act, in 1828 ; the payment being £286 10*s.*, in twenty instalments. Rebuilt, with stone, in 1876.

96. *Pont Cynnon.*—In the parish of Llanwyddin,

over the Cynnon brook. Maintained by the Hundred of Llanfyllin and parish of Llanwyddin until it became a County Bridge, under the Local Act, in 1828; the payment being £344, in forty instalments.

97. *Pontdolgoch Bridge.*—In the parishes of Llanwnog and Carno, on the road from Newton to Machynlleth. Maintained by those parishes until it became a County Bridge, under the Local Act, in 1821; the payment being £323, in forty instalments. Rebuilt, with stone, in 1830-35.

98. *Pont Dolwenith Bridge.*—In the parish of Llanwyddin, over the Mechain; stone. Maintained by the Hundred of Llanfyllin until it became a County Bridge, under the Local Act, in 1828; the payment being £221 10*s.*, in forty instalments.

99. *Pont Farrog Bridge.*—In the parish of Llangynog; stone. Maintained by the Hundred of Llanfyllin until it became a County Bridge, under the Local Act, in 1827; the payment being £254 15*s.*, in forty instalments.

100. *Pontfelinnewydd Bridge.*—In the parish of Llanfyllin. Became a County Bridge under the Local Act.

101. *Pontgarneddwen Bridge.*—In the parish of Llanwddyn. Maintained by the Hundred of Llanfyllin until it became a County Bridge, under the Local Act, in 1821; payment, £263 15*s.*, in twenty instalments. Rebuilt in 1848.

102. *Pont Gwenwynfarch Bridge.*—In the parish of Penstrowed, and maintained by that parish until it became a County Bridge, under the Local Act, on 28th October 1831; the payment being £181 7*s.* 4*d.*, in forty instalments. Rebuilt, with stone, in 1833.

103. *Pont Iscowrhyd Bridge.*—Over the Verniew, in the parishes of Meifod and Guilsfield, on the road from Pool to Llanfyllin. Maintained by the Hundred of Pool until made a County Bridge, under the Local Act, in 1821; the payment being £385, in twenty instalments. Stone.

104. *Pont Llogel.*—On the road from Cannoffice to Llanfyllin, over the Mechain. Maintained formerly by the Hundred of Llanfyllin and parish of Llangadfan. They applied to have it made a County Bridge on 18th October 1821 ; but the proceedings did not appear to have been continued until 1865, when an order was made for, and payment was made, in 1866, of £175 ; and when, the bridge having partially come down, it was restored by the County.

105. *Pontnewydd Cowney.*—In the parish of Llanwyddin ; timber and stone. Maintained by the Hundred of Llanfyllin until made a County Bridge, under the Local Act, upon an application made 18th October 1821.

106. *Pont Parry Bridge.*—In the parish of Llanfechan, township of Trewillan, by which it was maintained until it became a County Bridge, under the Local Act, on the 5th of September 1822 ; the township contributing £124, in forty instalments of £3 2*s.* each. Rebuilt with stone.

107. *Pont Robert, at Oliver.*—In the parishes of Llanfair and Llangyniew, over the Mechan, and formerly maintained by those parishes ; stone. Became a County Bridge, under the Local Act, in 1822 ; the payment being £541, in twenty instalments.

108. *Pont Rhyd Galed.*—In the parish of Llangerrig; stone. A County Bridge under the general law.

109. *Pont Scadarn.*—In the parish of Llanfihangel ; stone. A County Bridge under the general law.

110. *Pont Sycoed.*—Near Cyfronydd, on the road from Pool to Llanfair, over the Einion. Formerly maintained by the Hundred of Mathrafal, and became a County Bridge, under the Local Act, in 1828 ; the payment being £822 10*s.*, in forty instalments. Rebuilt, with stone, in 1835.

111. *Pont Tynewydd.*—In the parish of Llanfair ; stone. Became a County Bridge under the general law.

112. *Pont-y-Cappel.*—In the parish of Llansaint-

ffraid ; stone, with wood parapets. A County Bridge under the general law.

113. *Pont-y-Forwyn.*—In the parish of Llansaintffraid, over the Cain. Maintained by that parish until it became a County Bridge, under the Local Act, in 1822 ; the payment being £130, in forty instalments.

114. *Ponty Gochel.*—In the parish of Llanfair, over the Einion. Maintained by the parish until it became a County Bridge, under the Local Act, in 1827 ; the payment being £437 19*s.* 2*d.*, in forty instalments. Rebuilt in 1848.

115. *Pont-y-Meddw.* — In the parish of Llanllwchaiarn. It became a County Bridge under the general law.

116. *Pont-y-Pentre.*—In the parish of Llansaintffraid ; stone. Maintained by that parish until it became a County Bridge, under the Local Act, in 1822.

117. *Pont-y-Dwymwyn* or *Pontardwymin.* — Near Cemmes Road Railway Station, on the road from Cemmes to Machynlleth. A County Bridge under the general law.

118. *Poynt Bridge.*—In the parish of Llanfyllin ; stone. A County Bridge under the general law.

119. *Red Bridge.*—In the parish of Berriew ; stone. A County Bridge under the general law.

120. *Rhiew Bridge.*—Near Glansevern, on the road from Pool to Newtown, over the Rhiew, in the parish of Berriew ; stone. It became a County Bridge under the general law.

121. *Rhiewargor Bridge.*—In the parish of Llanwddyn. Maintained by the Hundred of Llanfyllin until it became a County Bridge, under the Local Act, in 1839 ; payment, £263, by twenty instalments. Widened with stone.

122. *Rhydlydan Bridge.*—Near Aberhavesp, on the old road from Newtown to Carno. Maintained by the township of Escob and Castle, in the parish of Llanwnog and the parish of Aberhavesp, until it became a County Bridge, under the Local Act, in 1821 ; the

payment being £115 1*s.* 8*d.*, in twenty instalments. Rebuilt with stone, in 1831.

123. *Rhydwyddfa Bridge.*—In the parish of Kerry; brick and stone. Became a County Bridge under the general law.

124. *Salt Bridge.*—In the parish of Montgomery; stone. Became a County Bridge under the general law.

125. *Sarn Bridge.*—In the parish of Carno. Maintained by the townships of Derlwyn and Llyssin, in the parish of Carno, until 1839, when it became a County Bridge, under the Local Act; the payment being £330 10*s.*, in twenty instalments. Rebuilt with stone.

126. *Steddfa Gerrig Bridge.*—In the parish of Llangerrig. A County Bridge under the general law. Rebuilt with stone.

127. *Tannatt Bridge.*—Over the Tannatt. A County Bridge under the general law.

128. *Tithe Barn Bridge.*—In the parish of Tregynon; stone. Maintained by that parish until it became a County Bridge, under the Local Act, in 1851; the payment being £205 7*s.* 6*d.*, in twenty instalments.

129. *Twrch Bridge.*—In the parish of Llangadfan. A County Bridge under the general law. Widened with stone.

130. *Varchoel,* in Guilsfield. — Stone. A County Bridge under the general law.

131. *Virniew Bridge.*—At Llanymynech, over the Virniew, in the parishes of Llanymynech and Llandisilio. Built under the Special Act, before referred to, in 1830 to 1835.

132. *Weeg Bridge.*—In the parish of Llanwnnog; stone. Was maintained by that parish until it became a County Bridge, under the Local Act, in 1821; the payment being £628 14*s.* 6*d.*, in forty instalments.

133. *Wigdwr Bridge.*—In the parishes of Llanidloes and Llandinam. Maintained by the townships

of Treflin and Rhydfas in those parishes until it became a County Bridge, under the Local Act, in 1822 ; the payment being £187, in twenty instalments. Rebuilt with stone, in 1831.

134. *Wynnstay Arms* or *Cock Bridge.*—In the parish of Llanbrynmair, on the road from Newtown to Machynlleth. Maintained by the townships of Rhiwsaeson, Tafolwern, Pennant, and Dolgadfan in that parish until 1825, when it became a County Bridge under the Local Act ; the payment being £296, in twenty instalments.

(*To be continued.*)

ELEMENTARY EDUCATION
IN
MONTGOMERYSHIRE.

The following General Report for the year 1881, by Her Majesty's Inspector, the Rev. R. Temple, M.A., on Schools inspected by him in Montgomeryshire, Salop, and adjoining Counties, seems worthy of preservation in the *Montgomeryshire Collections.*

My Lords,—In years not long past I had the honour of addressing you, when my district was a battlefield of educational parties and sects.

I am rejoiced to be able to say to-day that the wars are over, and that we have well settled down to steady and useful work. We neither love nor hate the names of "School Board systems", or "voluntary systems", as we have done, but we are converted to the sound belief that, if a school be well taught by its teacher and well cared for by its managers, it matters nothing what it is called.

Even in School Board elections candidates are required, more and more, to show care for elementary education, and less and less to flaunt their political or ecclesiastical colours before the electors.

I may, therefore, go on at once to report on the teaching of the different branches of elementary knowledge in my schools.

1. *Reading.*—The reading in my district is better than in any other part of England that I know; most of my children are descendants of Welshmen who learned English as a foreign tongue, and whose posterity has lost the Welsh accent and has not yet learned a vicious English dialect. This last virtue will, probably, soon disappear before the example of teachers who come from English counties where the traditions of Danish and Saxon pronunciation still rule in speech.

The reading is, even with us, too often indistinct. The causes of this seem to me to be (*a*) the want of a class-room where a class can be taken away from the general noise of the school; (*b*) the practice of letting children read at the teacher's side

instead of putting them at a distance where they must speak out; (*c*) the permission of simultaneous reading, which is always fatal to intelligence of expression; and (*d*) last and worst of all, the absence of care to make the children thoroughly understand what they read.

2. *Writing.*—Nothing varies so much in schools as the quality of the handwriting, because some teachers carefully superintend the whole course of a writing lesson, and correct each piece of clumsiness as it arises, while others merely "set a copy", or give out copybooks, and then leave the children to their own devices.

3. *Spelling.*—I generally find the spelling good in the upper part of large schools, and throughout the whole of small schools taught by one certificated teacher, but it is often indifferent in the lower part of large schools, where it has been left entirely to pupil teachers.

4. *Arithmetic.*—The same remark applies to this subject. I may, perhaps, be allowed to protest against the exclusive use of cards in arithmetic examinations. Unless the children throughout a school are used to having sums given them from dictation, they will be slow in taking them down and faulty in numeration.

I should be glad to see mensuration placed in the seventh standard arithmetic, or among the specific subjects. It is useful and popular, especially in agricultural districts, where farmers think little of scholarship that does not include land measuring.

5. *Geography.*—The two great defects of instruction in this subject are of a seemingly opposite nature; (*a*) teachers do not put the map out of sight of the children when they are questioning them about the position of counties, towns, mountains, and rivers; this the children should carry in their heads; (*b*) teachers do not make the children understand the use of a map when they have it before them, in respect of latitude and longitude of places and similar matters, which the children should have at their fingers' ends.

6. *Grammar.*—My opinion of the usefulness of this subject rises with experience. Its clearness and its subtilty exercise and interest mental faculties which are hardly touched by anything else taught in elementary schools.

It is popular among teachers and scholars, who show a proficiency in it that often surprises me, as much as geography (apparently an easier subject) often disappoints me.

7. *History.*—I believe the teachers are too often content with letting the children write out some bald narrative from history, instead of questioning *vivâ voce* on the political and social bearings of events and characters. For example, Alfred and William Rufus occupy a very disproportionate space in schoolboy history. The story of the former sovereign especially is as much overdone as his cakes; the question of how past events have produced present conditions seems rarely to enter the head of teacher or scholar.

8. *English Repetition.*—There is no single subject that tests the efficiency and intelligence of a school so well as this. A good piece of English poetry, well taught and understood, brings out articulation, expression, memory, apprehension, comprehension, taste, and imagination. I do not fear to say that it exercises more faculties than all the other subjects of instruction put together. I have been the ardent champion of this subject for many years, and am very glad that in my district it is almost universally taught, and in the great majority of schools taught well.

9. *Mathematics.*—As mine is a district of (for the most part) country schools, this subject is seldom taught to more than two or three boys at the head of a school; it is generally taught with success. If physical geography disappears from the specific subjects, I have little doubt that mathematics will become much more general.

10. *Latin* is seldom taught, and in only one school (Berriew Boys' Endowed) has it ever been taught well.

11, 12. *French and German.*—French is seldom taught, and never well. German has never been put before me at all.

13. *Mechanics.*—I am very much disappointed in this subject. It seems to me very useful for artisans, but I cannot get teachers to take to it or to teach it with success. In one school only (Machynlleth National Boys') has it been thoroughly satisfactory, and even there the master is, I believe, giving it up. I may, perhaps, venture to suggest that if the restriction imposed by the words in italics at the bottom of column 6 of Schedule IV were removed, the popularity and usefulness of this subject might be increased.

14. *Animal Physiology.*—This subject has been well taught in one school in my district (Llandinam Board School), and, as far as I remember, in no other.

15. *Physical Geography.*—This has been a favourite subject with teachers, for one obvious reason at least, viz., that more

money can be got with less trouble in physical geography than in any other way.

There is not quantity of information in this subject to make it satisfactorily fitted for a separate examination or a special grant. I shall be very glad to see it joined to the ordinary geography. It will then be taught more generally, and better, and with a saving of time.

16. *Botany.*—This is likely to become popular, especially in girls' schools, if English literature passes out of the Fourth Schedule.

17. *Domestic Economy.*—I am very glad to hear from the teachers in my district that this subject is popular among the parents of the scholars. The instruction in it is improving, but is still far too full of long words, and far too vague and irrelevant to the matter in hand. Girls will give the Greek derivation of "economy", and talk of "albumen", and "adipose matter", and then say that six hours ought to be given to roast a pound of mutton, or put (as fourteen girls did recently) a hypothetical plum-pudding in the pot without tying a cloth round it. I hope, however, that a little judicious "plucking" will bring common sense to bear upon domestic economy.

18. *Needlework.*—I may first say, what I believe I have said before, (*a*) that, mine being a district of country schools, the needlework is better in it than in counties where large towns abound, because (*b*) the needlework receives more superintendence from ladies who are interested in the schools than where rich and poor are more divided from each other. It is almost universally true that, as is the number of ladies visiting a school, so is the goodness of the needlework.

19. *Music from Notes and Singing.*—Music from notes is common and generally good where the teachers are Welsh; but Englishmen, for the most part, go on shirking this subject as much as possible. The tonic sol-fa system is by far the most popular in Wales, and in my experience by far the most successful in enabling children to learn quickly to read music at sight. It seems to me that where music from notes is not taught, the singing may be sweet and pleasing, but it has no educational value.

Moral Results of Education.—It is apparently difficult to decide quickly and correctly on the moral tone of schools, but with experience the difficulty ceases. I have long been connected with elementary education. In my school and college days I always taught in Sunday and day schools when I got an opportunity. When I was for five years in charge of a

parish, I generally spent three hours a day in the school, and I have been an inspector since 1857. I trust, therefore, that my evidence may count for something when I express my conviction that the improvement in the order, discipline, self-control, interest in their work, and (perhaps most of all) cleanliness and neatness of English children has been marked, steady, and most satisfactory.

I do not know how far I am justified in speaking of the changes in the Code which your Lordships have proposed, but not yet carried into effect; but I, perhaps, may be allowed to say that, as far as education is concerned, they are received in my district with, I believe, unanimous satisfaction, because they tend to free schools from the danger (ever imminent) of formal and dull routine, and to compel greater life, spirit, and intelligence in scholars, teachers, and inspectors. Of course, that school is best where everything is perfect, but I have always preferred a school where the children are bright, animated, intelligent, and advanced in general knowledge, even if there are a few failures in reading, writing, and arithmetic, to a school where the children are lifeless and depressed, though the examination schedule be immaculate.

I am very glad to see that "the Principles of Agriculture" will, probably, be a specific subject in future years. I remember with pleasure the intelligent answering which I used to get before 1863 from boys who had read the excellent "Agricultural Class-book" of the Irish Board of Education, and had been practising its precepts, as half-timers, in farm work.

In a country district like mine, instruction in the common labour of field and dairy will be useful and popular in a high degree.

I hope the text-books, pictures, and diagrams connected with agricultural teaching will be as varied as English farming itself, and will treat of the simple implements, small farming, and hardy breeds of mountain lands, as well as of the high breeds, wheat-producing science, and elaborate appliances of the eastern and midland counties.

I come next to the questions of population and school accommodation in my district.

I wish, before I enter into these subjects, to express my sincere gratitude to the registrars of my census districts for taking so much trouble in furnishing me with the details of the census of 1881, without which I should have been helpless.

I have under my inspection seven census districts, viz., Oswestry (352), Ellesmere (353), Whitchurch (355), Machynlleth (613), Newtown (614), Forden (615), Llanfyllin (616).

In these districts the population under the census of 1871, and that of 1881, stands as follows :—

	Census of 1871.	Census of 1881.	Increase.	Decrease.
Oswestry	26,848	27,077	229	—
Ellesmere	14,465	13,716	—	749
Whitchurch	11,424	11,246	—	178
Machynlleth	13,317	12,576	—	741
Newtown	24,554	25,440	886	—
Forden	18,858	18,274	—	584
Llanfyllin	21,671	19,955	—	1,716
Total	131,137	128,284	1,115	3,968

The decrease, therefore, in the population of my district, between 1871 and 1881, has been 2,853.

In order to determine the effect of the changes in the population of parishes upon school accommodation, it will not, I think, be necessary to give details where the school supply is sufficient, but it will, in my opinion, be useful for me to state the general circumstances of each census district, and the details of each parish where a deficiency appears to exist.

I take, therefore, the census districts *seriatim*.

Oswestry Census District (353).

In this district there are 16 school parishes (*i.e.*, parishes or townships bound to provide their own elementary education) including the municipal borough of Oswestry. Of these, three are under School Boards. There are 38 schools, of which 29 are in connection with the Church of England, five are British schools, three are Board Schools, one is Roman Catholic. All these schools receive annual grants. At the Board Schools and the National Schools at Oswestry, and at St. Martins, there are separate departments for boys, girls, and infants. At the Trinity Schools and the Ragged Schools at Oswestry there are separate departments for elder children and infants, and at Chirk and Whittington for boys and girls. The other schools are mixed (*i.e.*, contain boys and girls together). Between 1871 and 1881 the population has increased in the borough of Oswestry from 7,306 to 7,851; in St. Martins from 2,558 to 2,815; in West Felton from 1,059 to 1,065; and in Chirk from 1,919 to 2,171. Everywhere else it has decreased. The school accommodation is sufficient throughout this census district.

Ellesmere Census District (354).

In this district there are 17 school parishes, of which none are under School Boards, and 21 schools, all of which are connected with the Church of England. Sixteen schoools are in receipt of annual grants, and five are certified as efficient. It is worthy of remark that this is the only census district under my inspection where fears and scruples about receiving grants still linger. At Ellesmere there are separate departments for boys, girls, and infants, and at Baschurch, Hanmer, and Overton for boys and girls. All the other schools are mixed.

Between 1871 and 1881 the population has increased in Bettisfield from 334 to 363; in Hanmer from 433 to 450; in Welshampton from 500 to 521; in Great Ness from 588 to 657; in Little Ness from 253 to 291; in Hadnal from 525 to 531; and in Petton from 37 to 38. In all the other parishes it has diminished.

In Great Ness room for nine children appears to be wanted, and in Little Ness there is a dame's school sufficient in area for the population, but not, at least when I saw it last, suitable in instruction for the elder children. If this school were placed under a certificated teacher, or if the trustees of the Endowed Schools at Baschurch (where there is plenty of vacant space) would admit the elder children from Little Ness, the difficulty would be solved. In the other parishes of this census district the accommodation is sufficient.

Whitchurch Census District (355).

There are in name 25 school parishes in this district, but in practice only five, for the 19 townships of Malpas may be counted as one, and so may Marbury, Norbury, and Wirswall. In these five parishes there is no School Board. Twelve Church of England schools and one Wesleyan (Whitchurch) school supply the elementary education. All these schools are receiving or seeking annual grants. At Malpas and at Whitchurch (Church of England school) there are three departments, for boys, girls, and infants. The Whitchurch Wesleyan school has an upper (mixed) and an infants' department. The other schools are all mixed. Three of the five parishes have decreased in population since 1871. The Marbury district has increased from 751 in 1871 to 792 in 1881. Whitchurch parish has similarly increased from 6,264 to 6,395. In the country parts of this district the school supply is sufficient, but not, perhaps, in the town of Whitchurch. I shall be glad to put on record that when the school at Bickley, in Malpas parish, was closed some years ago, and a school built instead

of it at Cholmondeley, in the Nantwich census district, it was settled that half of the accommodation provided by that (Cholmondeley School) should be assigned to the use of that part of Malpas parish which lies in the union of Whitchurch.

Machynlleth Census District (610).

In this district there are 11 school parishes, of which four are under School Boards. There are 20 schools, of which 11 are connected with the Church of England, five are under School Boards, four are British Schools. All these schools receive annual grants.

At Machynlleth there are separate departments for boys, girls, and infants. All the other schools are mixed. The population of Cemmaes has risen from 877 in 1871 to 946 in 1881, and that of the United School Board parishes of Pennal and Towyn from 3,982 to 4,025. In every other parish the population has decreased.

There is no question about sufficiency of school accommodation, excepting in Llanwrin, where room is wanted for 113 children, and the school will only hold 65. In 1871 the deficiency was held to be supplied by schools in Cemmaes and Corris, which latter parish is not in my district.

Newtown Census District (614).

In this district there are 18 school parishes, of which 10 are under School Boards. There are 32 schools, of which 17 are under School Boards, 12 are connected with the Church of England, three are British or undenominational. All these schools receive annual grants.

The Newtown Church Street Board School has separate departments for boys, girls, and infants; Kerry Endowed School for boys and girls, and Glandwr Board School for elder children and infants. All the other schools are mixed. Between 1871 and 1881 the population has increased from 2,077 to 2,093 in Kerry; from 5,886 to 7,170 in the united School Board district of Newtown and Llanllwchaiarn; from 4,879 to 4,940 in Llanidloes; from 1,645 to 1,747 in Llanwnog; and from 1,807 to 1,822 in Trefeglwys. In the other parishes there has been a decrease. In spite of the large increase in Newtown, there is still plenty of school accommodation there, as in every other parish in the district, excepting Llanwnog and Manafon. In Llanwnog there is a want of school room for 13 children. The population of Manafon in 1881 is 627. From this the 77 inhabitants of the

township of Dolcynfelin (which forms part of the School Board district of Llanwyddelan) are to be deducted. This leaves 550, and by dividing this number by six we get 92 children in Manafon who want school accommodation. The existing school only holds 54. There is, therefore, a deficiency of 38. In Trefeglwys, the National School was finally closed in July 1881. The remaining schools satisfy the requirements of the Education Act, but there may be, in fact, a want of more school accommodation at the lower end of the parish.

Forden Census District (612).

There are 22 school parishes (including the municipal borough of Welshpool) in this district. None are under School Boards. There are 25 schools, of which all are in receipts of annual grants, and all in connection with the Church of England, with the exception of Welshpool British School. In Welshpool the National School has separate departments for boys and girls, and there are two Church of England infants' schools.

At Berriew the boys and girls are taught in separate schools. All the other schools are mixed.

The population has increased between 1871 and 1881 in Castlewright from 159 to 166, and in Llandyssil from 138 to 150. Everywhere else it has fallen off. I find 16 children in Castle Caereinion in excess of the school accommodation, 31 in Forden, and 20 in Worthen. I question whether the like deficiency for 38 in Llandyssil and 34 in Llanmerewig can fairly be said to be supplied by the schools in Kerry. In the other parishes in this census district the accommodation is sufficient.

Llanfyllin Census District (616).

In this district there are 24 parishes (for school purposes). Seven of these parishes are under School Boards. To supply the district with education there are 35 schools, of which 24 are connected with the Church of England, eight are under School Boards, three are British or undenominational. All these schools are in receipt of annual grants.

With the exception of the National School at Llanfyllin, which is divided into separate departments for boys and girls, all these schools are mixed.

The population has diminished in every school parish in this district, excepting Llanwddyn, where it was 443 in 1871, and is 458 now; but here, as in all other parishes in the Llanfyllin census district, the accommodation in the school is amply sufficient for the children.

Before finishing this part of my report, I venture to suggest that every Chief Inspector of a district should be instructed to send up annually to the Department an account of the school supply in his district somewhat similar to that which I have given here.

I come now to the question of school attendance, and of the means taken to enforce it. I get from managers and teachers, on all sides, complaints of neglect of duty by the attendance officers, but when I ask that these complaints be put on paper and corroborated by facts, I always find that the courage of the complainants oozes out at their fingers' ends.

I am forced then to adopt the plan of giving to your Lordships the name of every school parish where the average attendance is, as far as I can make out, less than two-thirds of the number of children for whom school provision is required—that is, one-sixth of the inhabitants. Or, in other words, I name those parishes where the average attendance at school appears to be less than one-ninth of the population. I say "appears to be", because it is possible that some children out of one parish may go to school in another, and I may have failed to discover the fact, although I have made close inquiry on this subject. Again, in naming these parishes, I do not impute even *primâ facie* blame to the attendance officers, for sickness, or bad weather, or the temporary closing of schools may lower the average attendance in any particular parish or year. In taking one-ninth of the population as the least average attendance that can be called satisfactory, I may seem to accept too low an estimate, but a great part of my district is wild and mountainous, where it would be hard, not to say cruel, to enforce in winter extreme regularity of attendance.

In the following list I have put S.B. to the name of any parish where the school authority is a School Board; P.C. where it is a parochial committee; and U.C. where it is the attendance committee of the Board of Guardians of a Poor Law Union.

NAMES OF SCHOOL PARISHES WHERE AVERAGE ATTENDANCE IS LESS THAN ONE-NINTH OF POPULATION.

Oswestry Census District.—Llansilin, S.B.; Llanyblodwel, U.C.; Selattyn, U.C.

Ellesmere Census District.—Baschurch, U.C.; Bronington, U.C.; Ellesmere, U.C.; Little Ness, U.C.; Great Ness, U.C.; Overton, U.C.; Willington, U.C.;

Whitchurch Census District.—Iscoyd, U.C.; Marbury, U.C.: Whitchurch, U.C.

Machynlleth Census District.—Llanwrin, U.C.; Towyn and Pennal, S.B.

Newtown Census District.—Aberhafesp, U.C.; Bettws, U.C.; Llangurig, S.B.; Llanwyddelan, S.B.; Manafon, U.C.; Newtown, S.B.; Trefeglwys, S.B.

Forden Census District.—Chirbury, U.C.; Churchstoke, U.C.; Forden, U.C.; Leighton and Trelystan, U.C.; Welshpool Borough, Town Council; Worthen, U.C.

Llanfyllin Census District.—Guilsfield, U.C.; Llandysilio, U.C.; Llanfechain, U.C.; Llanfihangel, P.C.; Llanfyllin, U.C.; Llangadfan, U.C.; Llangyniew, U.C.; Llanwddyn, U.C.

I must, in conclusion, ask forgiveness from your Lordships for troubling you with a longer report than I have usually written, for I have been tempted by your expressed wish for details which are very interesting to me, and by the increased life and energy which seems likely to be thrown into the work of education.—I have the honour to be, etc.

R. Temple.

To the Right Honourable
The Lords of the Committee of Council on Education.

HIDDEN TREASURE IN THE WELSH BORDERS.

The Lansdown Collection of Manuscripts in the British Museum contains a remarkably curious document relating to the treasure legends of the Welsh border. It is a letter addressed by a Welshman, who, for some offence or other, appears to have found his way into the Tower of London, and who attempted to obtain his release by a promise of discovering treasure in the castle of Skenfrith, which he states to be in the County of Montgomery; but there is no parish of that name in that county. He writes the Lord Treasurer Burghley as follows:—

"Leave your Lordship to understand that there is a Castell in the parish of Skenfryth, in the *Countie of Montgomerie.* Your lordship graunt full authoritie unto myne owne selfe, I am a poore subject of the quene's, if there be any treasure

there your Lordship shall know it, for by the voice of the countrey there is treasure. No man in remembrance was ever seene to open it, and great warrs have been at it, and there was a place not farr from it whose name was Gamdon, that is as much as to say the *game is doun*. Pray you, good my lord, your letter to the castle, craving your lordship's free authoritie to open, and if treasure there, I will use it as it ought to be, and I will stand to your lordship's consideration to give me what you please. For the countrey saieth there is great treasure. The voyce of the countrey goeth there is a dyvell and his dame, one sits upon a hogshed of gold, the other upon a hogshed of silver. Yet nevethelesse, with your lordship's full power and authoritie, they shall be removed by the Grace of God, without any charge to the quene and your lordship. If that treasure be there, then I shall looke for something at your handes. So praying your lordship's answer for the present despatche, so I bid your lordship farewell. From the tower of London, this 28th of April 1589.

"Your Lordship's to command,

"William Hobbey.

"Your lordship's owne hand write the Lord Treasurer underneath this petition, as for example

"The Lord Treasurer."[1]

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[1] Wright's *History of Ludlow*, p. 408.

MONTGOMERYSHIRE WORTHIES.

By RICHARD WILLIAMS, Newtown.

(*Continued from Vol.* xv, *page* 224.)

Powell, Thomas, the Chartist, was a native of Newtown. His father, Richard Powell, was the son of William Powell, of Cilgwrgan. His mother's maiden name was Blayney, and she was related to the Blayneys of Gregynog. Richard Powell, in his younger days, served in the American War of Independence, and was wounded in the battle of Bunker's Hill. Having squandered his property, he became dependent upon an allowance from his brother, the Rev. Thomas Powell, of Montgomery, until the death of the latter in 1792. For some years prior to his death, at an advanced age, about 1835, he lived in lodgings at the Grapes Inn, Newtown. Thomas Powell was educated at Welshpool. Subsequently he was apprenticed to Mr. Watkins, an ironmonger at Shrewsbury, and, at the expiration of his apprenticeship, he obtained an appointment in a wholesale house in Upper Thames Street, London. During his residence in London, his Radical opinions in politics brought him into acquaintance and fellowship with those who afterwards became leaders of the Chartist movement. In 1832, however, he removed to Welshpool, having purchased an extensive ironmongery business there, formerly carried on by Mr. Pryce Bowen. He was, it is said, an excellent tradesman, and did a large business; but expensive habits, and the expenditure of large sums in the furtherance of his political opinions, landed him in pecuniary difficulties, which compelled him to compound with his creditors for thirteen shillings and four-

pence in the pound. Mr. W. J. Linton, in an interesting article under the title, *Who were the Chartists?* which recently appeared in *The Century Magazine*, relates the following incident of this period of Powell's life :—

"Some words I must spare for Thomas Powell, whom I knew when he was a shopman with his friend Hetherington.[1] He, a fiery little Welshman, had more of the rebel in him, albeit a sensible man, clever and wary,—a man who might have led an insurrection. . . . . What quality he had, how trusted and trustworthy he was, one little anecdote will show. When Hetherington was indicted for selling Haslam's *Letters to the Clergy*, he made up his mind to suffer imprisonment rather than pay a fine. He had been mulcted enough in former days, and this time 'they should take it out of his bones'. A friend (Chartist also, Hugh Williams,[2] a Carmarthen lawyer, Cobden's brother-in-law) lent him a sum sufficient to purchase his whole property, books, presses, household stuff, etc. This he handed to Powell, the property being valued by a broker to make the sale legal. Powell bought all, paying the ready money for it. Hetherington returned his friend's loan, and, coming out of prison (he was not fined), received back his own from Powell. There were no vouchers or receipts passed to vitiate the transaction. So these Chartists trusted one another."

Having gone out of business, Powell now devoted all his time and energies to the Chartist agitation, and was looked up to as the ablest advocate of the cause in Montgomeryshire. On Christmas Day 1838, a great demonstration was held at Newtown and Caersws, at which Powell was one of the principal speakers. His speech on this occasion, as reported, contains little that in the present day would be considered reprehensible, but much that is sensible and just. It, however,

[1] Henry Hetherington was a printer, bookseller, and news-agent in London. He attended meetings at Newtown and Llanidloes during the Chartist agitation in the winter of 1838. He died of cholera in 1849.

[2] Hugh Williams was a native of Machynlleth. He wrote and published a collection of Chartist songs, and was the solicitor who got up the defence of the Llanidloes rioters at the Welshpool Assizes in July 1839. He practised for many years at St. Clears, Carmarthenshire, where he died about eight years ago.

brought him into trouble—he was tried for using seditious language, and sentenced to twelve months' imprisonment. During his confinement, he devoted much time to teaching his fellow-prisoners at Montgomery. When the Chartist movement collapsed, Powell engaged with a Colonial Company to go with a party of emigrants to Trinidad, where he settled, and, it is said, married a woman of colour, by whom he had several children, and where, after a few years' residence, he died.

Pryce, Sir John, the first baronet, of Newtown Hall, was descended from an ancient and powerful family of the tribe of Elystan Glodrudd, settled for centuries at that place. He was the son of Edward Pryce, Esq. (Sheriff 1615), by Juliana, daughter of John Owen Vaughan, of Llwydiarth, and was sixth in descent from David Lloyd, a man of great wealth and influence, and a liberal patron of the bards, to whom Lewys Glyn Cothi addressed one of his best odes, and whose son Rhys (seneschal of Montgomery Castle, and steward of the lordships of Montgomery, Kerry, Cyfeiliog and Arwystli under Edward IV) was slain at the battle of Danesmore, near Banbury, in 1469. He was created a baronet on the 15th August 1628, and married Catherine, daughter of Sir Richard Price, of Gogerddan, and widow of James Stedman, of Strata Florida. He represented Montgomeryshire in the Long Parliament, which assembled 3rd November 1640, at Westminster. He was one of the 118 members who, at the king's summons, formed the short-lived "mongrel" parliament at Oxford, which met there on the 22nd January 1644-5, and separated on the 16th April 1645, having done nothing beyond voting subsidies which could not be collected, and inditing a long letter (to which we find Sir John Pryce's name appended among others) to the Earl of Essex in favour of peace. For attending this Parliament he was, for a time, "disabled", by the Parliament at Westminster, from sitting there. Towards the middle of

September, however, Sir John suddenly changed sides and went over to that of the Parliament. *The Kingdom's Weekly Intelligencer* thus announces the change:—"Sir John Price, a Parliament man (whose heart was always with the Parliament, but was so overmastered by the enemy that he durst not appear) writes that the country do come in cheerfully. They only want arms to defend themselves, and he hopes to help his neighbours' counties in Pembrokeshire." Sir Thomas Myddelton speedily recognised the importance of his adhesion to the Parliamentary cause by appointing him Governor of Montgomery Castle, which had recently fallen into the hands of the Parliamentary forces. Sir John's influence, indeed, soon made itself felt. Sir Michael Ernley, writing, from Shrewsbury, to Prince Rupert, on the 21st of September, states that, "since the disaster at Montgomery, the edge of the gentry is very much blunted—the country's loyalty strangely abated. They begin to warp to the enemy's party." Archbishop Williams also writes to the Marquis of Ormond that Myddelton was "quietly possessed of Montgomeryshire by the help of Sir John Price." Sir John was assiduous in his new office, but, six months afterwards, Col. Gerard, pushing his way triumphantly through North Wales, routed him at Llanidloes, and sent a detachment from Newtown, under Sir Edmund Cary, to scour the country as far as Shrewsbury and to attack Sir Thomas Myddelton. He continued to represent Montgomeryshire in Parliament until the year before his death, which took place June 18th, 1657. He was succeeded in the title and estates by his second son, Matthew Pryce—his eldest son, Lieut.-Col. Edward Pryce, having died in his lifetime at Gogerddan, on the 29th November 1645. Sir Matthew Pryce was Sheriff in 1659-60. (Lloyd's *Sheriffs of Montgomeryshire; Mont. Coll.*, ii, 215; iii, 400; iv, 291; viii, 127; ix, 414; xiv, 38; Phillips's *Civil War in Wales and the Marches*, i, 197, 265, 275, 292; and ii, 203, 213, 215; *Cam. Quar. Mag.*, iv, 336, etc.)

PRYCE, SIR JOHN, the fifth baronet, of Newtown Hall, was the son of Sir Vaughan Pryce, Bart. (Sheriff in 1709), of the same place, by Ann, his wife. He was born about the year 1698,[1] and succeeded to the title and estates on his father's death, April 30th, 1720. He married, firstly, Elizabeth, daughter of Sir Thomas Powell, of Broadway, Carmarthenshire, who died April 22nd, 1731,[2] leaving issue a son and two daughters, namely, John Powel, Anna Elizabetha (who died October 18th, 1736), and Diana. He married, secondly, Mary, daughter of Mr. John Morris, of Wern Goch,

[1] I have failed to find the exact date of his birth. The entries for 1698-9 in the Newtown Register are nearly all illegible from the effects of damp. The birth and baptism of his younger brother, Matthew, are, however, thus entered: "Matthew, ye son of Sr. Vaughan Price Barronett was born September ye 27th and baptized October ye 2nd 1700."

[2] Sir John Pryce erected in the old church at Newtown a handsome marble monument to the memory of his two wives, which, upon the dismantling of that church, was removed to the new parish church and placed against the north wall. The following is the inscription to the memory of the first wife:—

"To the Pious Memory of Dame Elizabeth Pryce Wife to Sr. John Pryce Bart. Daughter to the late Sr. Thomas Powel, of Broadway, in Carmarthen-Shire Bart. by Elizabeth Daughter to Thomas Mansel, of Briton Ferry in Glamorgan-Shire, Esq. (a Lady of great Vertue and Merit) and Grand-Daughr to Sir John Powel Knt. one of the Justices of the King's Bench in the Reign of King James IInd who eminently Signaliz'd his Integrity & Resolution, in the Delivery of the 7 Bishops out of the Tower. She was a Lady of Singular Piety, Goodness & Charity, without the least Ostentation of either: one who chose rather to Be, than to appear to the World, a good Christian & a true genuine Member of the Church of England. She behav'd her-Self in all the Social & Relative Duties of Life with a religious Exactness, being a most dutifull Daughr a most Affectionate Wife, a most tender Parent, a most kind endearing Relation & a most sincere Friend. She was Civil & obliging in her Deportment towards her Equals; of great Affability, Courteousness, & Condescension towards her Inferiours: of a most tender, compassionate temper to all in Distress. All which good Qualities were joyn'd to an uncommon Degree of Modesty & an humble Opinion of her-Self which added a Lustre to all her other Vertues & procured her the general Esteem & Respect of all that knew her. She Dy'd Apr. 22d 1731 in the 33d year of her Age: and left Issue, John-Powel, Anna Elizabetha and Diana Pryce."

Berriew, who died August 3rd, 1739,[1] leaving issue two daughters, Mary and Elizabeth. On the 6th July 1741, he addressed the following singular letter to the Rev. William Felton, Curate of Newtown, who was then lying dangerously ill, and who died the very next day :—

"Dear Mr. Felton,—I waited an opportunity yesterday of confering a little with you in private; but, not finding the room in which you sat clear a minute, I am forced to communicate this way my thoughts upon the subject I then intended to speak upon; & I desire you will not suspect from what I am going to say that I look upon your case to be desperate, but yet, on the contrary, I approve some symptoms in your disorder as prognosticks, I hope, of your recovery out of.

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[1] The inscription to her memory is as follows :—

"To the Pious Memory of Dame Mary Pryce, Second Wife of S^r^ John Pryce of Newtown Hall in Montgomeryshire Bart. & Eldest Daughter of Mr. John Morris of Wern Goch in the parish of Berriew & Mary his Wife Daughter of Mr. Oliver Jones of Gwern yr Ychen in the Parish of Llandysul in the same County. She was a Lady whose incomparable Beauty & fine Proportion, was the true Index of her sweet disposition of Mind, w^ch^ shone through all that Cloud of Infamy w^ch^ had been cast upon her Character by Envious & Malicious persons; & forced even her Inveterate & most Cruel Enemies to confess (soon after her decease w^ch^ was most unfortunately occasioned by their unjust Aspersions) that she was the Reverse, in every Character of Life, to what she was so undeservedly, & so injuriously represented. She excelled in all ye Social & Relative Characters of Wife, Parent, Step-mother, Daughter, Neighbour & Friend: nor was she less eminent in her Religious, than in her Moral Life; being from her Infancy a constant Attendant on Divine Worship in ye Church of England, of which she was a most sincere, & pious Member. She was extreamly Modest, Chaste, & Vertuous; adorned all her life long, with ye resplendent Robe of Innocence & those inestimable Iewels, a meek & quiet spirit. She was very compassionate towards ye Poor, the Afflicted & Distressed; especially towards Orphans, & Children, that were deprived of either Parent. The advancement of her Fortune was not attended with the least exaltation of her Mind; neither did she seem conscious of these & many other innate perfections, w^ch^ wanted nothing but ye advantages of a more refined Education to render them illustrious in ye Eyes of all her acquaintance. She dyed August the 3d 1739, Aged 24 years, 1 month, & 2 days; & left Issue, Mary and Elizabeth Pryce."

Neither do I give you this caution as tho' I was apprehensive of your being in the least troubled at the thought of whatever may befall you in the conclusion, for I have been credibly informed that it is quite otherwise with you, but only because I would not have you think that I imagine it worse than I really do. But as God Almighty may dispose of you in a manner contrary to either my wishes or expectations, and as I have abundant reason to believe from my own as well as other people's observation of your conduct, that you will immediately enter upon a happier state whenever you make an exchange forth, as the reward of a wellspent life, I desire that you will do me the favor to acquaint my two Dear Wives, both of which you will be sure to find within those happy Regions, and questionless within the same mansion too, that I retain the same tender Affections and the same Honour and Esteem for their Memories which I ever did for their persons, and to tell the latter that I earnestly desire, if she can obtain the Divine permission, that she will appear to me, to discover the persons who have wronged her and to put me into a proper method of vindicating those wrongs which robb[d] her of her life and me of all my happiness in this world, that since she left me I never knew what joy or comfort means, and that probably I never shall, at least not within many degrees of that which I enjoyed whilst she was with me, till it please God to give us a happy meeting in a better world; that the consideration and hopes and expectations of that happy time are all my support under this great and unparrallel'd affliction; that her enemies, & perhaps the very worst, even the Ringleader of them all have since her death, as she herself predicted, declared that she deserved not the least of all those calumnies which Envy and Malice had besmeared her with; that I have several other weighty things to tell her of and several important questions to ask her, and that you will tell her that I think, tho' I am not very sure, that she promised me an appearance after death if it should be permitted her. The reason I desire this of you is that it is a matter of uncertainty to me whether the dead are conscious of what we say and do on earth, tho' I must confess that I have been long accustomed to an imagination that they do; and the more I ruminate upon that subject, the more strongly I am inclined to think that I am in the right, and that for several reasons, which I forbear to give you because I must have sufficiently tired your attention already. I desire no answer in writing; your distemper will not allow it. If I live till Sunday, I intend just to speak to you upon these heads. In the mean-

while, I heartily wish you the Divine protection and assistance in conjunction with the means used for your recovery, and am,

"Your Friend & Humble Servant,

"New Town Hall, July 6, 1741. JON. PRYCE.

"P.S.—I have sent you a Bottle of Mint Water, which, if you find too strong, you may dilute with Spring Water to what size you please."

Sir John also wrote an elegy of a thousand lines to his second wife, in which he affirmed that, with his latest breath, he would "lisp Maria's name." Ere long, however, he forgot his vow, and was smitten with the charms of Eleanor, widow of Roger Jones, Esq., of Buckland, Breconshire. He had embalmed his two first wives, and kept them in his room, one on each side of his bed, but this lady declined the honour of his hand till her defunct rivals were committed to their proper resting places. He married her at the parish church of Llansaintffraid, Breconshire, on the 19th December 1741. A year or two afterwards, Sir John appears to have quitted Newtown, and taken up his residence at Buckland. After 1743, his signature as churchwarden is not to be found in the parish books. An old diary of an inhabitant (which I have seen in manuscript) records that "The Organs", which had been "opened to play with" in July 1731, and had probably been presented to Newtown Church by Sir John, "were taken down in ye year 1745, and carried to Buckland in Brecknock shire by the ordrs of Sr John Pryce of Newtown." In the old diary already quoted the following entry also occurs: "A charytie Scool Being erected by the Honourable Sr. John for the poor of the parish of Newtowne. The entring day is August the 10 in the year 1730." The third Lady Pryce died in 1748. At that time multitudes resorted to a woman named Bridget Bostock, "the Cheshire Pythoness", who undertook to heal all diseases by prayer, faith, and an embrocation of fasting-spittle, which she supplied. Sir John, who was very credulous and eccentric, but otherwise a

very worthy man, seems to have entertained full confidence in this impostor. He accordingly wrote to her, shortly after his wife's death, the following letter, requesting her prayers for the restoration to him of his third wife[1] :—

"Madam,—Being very well informed by very creditable people, both private and public, that you have done several wonderful cures, even when Physicians have failed, & that you do it by the force and efficacy of your prayers mostly, if not altogether (the outward means you use being generally supposed to be inadequate to the effects produced), I cannot but look upon such operations to be miraculous, & if so, why may not an infinitely good & gracious God enable you to raise the Dead as well as to heal the Sick, give sight to the Blind, & hearing to the Deaf? for since He is pleased to hear your prayers in some cases so beneficial to mankind, there's the same reason to expect it in others, &, consequently, in that I have particularly mentioned, namely, raising up the Dead. Now, as I have lost a Wife whom I most dearly loved, my Children one of the best of Stepmothers, all her near Relations a friend whom they greatly esteemed, and the Poor a charitable benefactress, I intreat you for God Almighty's sake that you wou'd be so good as to come here if your actual presence is absolutely requisite, or if not, that you will offer up your prayers to the throne of Grace on my behalf that God wou'd graciously vouchsafe to raise up my dear wife, Dame Eleanor Pryce, from the Dead,—this is one of the greatest acts of charity you can do, for my heart is ready to break with grief at the consideration of the great loss—this wou'd be doing myself & all her Relations & friends such an extraordinary kindness as wou'd necessarily engage our daily prayers for your preservation as the least gratuity I cou'd make you for so great a benefit, tho' were any other compatible with the nature of the thing, & durst we offer & you accept it, we shou'd think nothing too much to the utmost of our abilities, & I wish that the bare mention of it is not offensive both to God and you.

"If your immediate presence is indispensably necessary, pray let me know by return of the Post, that I may send you a Coach & Six & Servants to attend you here, with orders to

[1] A very inaccurate copy (as it appears) of this letter is given in Pennant's *Tours*. The one here given is taken from *Arch. Camb.*, vol. v (2nd series), p. 108. The letter was addressed to Mrs. Bridget Bostock, near Whitchurch, Shropshire.

defray your expences in a manner most suitable to your own desires. If your pray[rs] will be as effectual at the distance you'r from me, pray signify the same in a letter directed by way of London, to, good Madam,

"Your unfortunate afflicted petitioner & hble. Serv[t],
"Buckland, 1st Dece'r 1748. "JOHN PRYCE."

"P.S.—Pray direct your letter to Sir John Pryce, Bar[t]., at Buckland, in Brecknocksh., South Wales. God almighty prosper this undertaking & others intended for the Benefit of mankind, & may He long continue such a useful person upon Earth, & afterwards crown you with Eternal Glory in the Kingdom of Heaven thro' Jesus Christ. Amen."

In compliance with this invitation, Mrs. Bostock is said to have visited Buckland, and to have exerted all her miracle-working powers, but without effect. The date and place of Sir John's death are uncertain. His eldest son seems to have succeeded by some arrangement to the possession of the Montgomeryshire estates and the occupation of Newtown Hall, and to have been made a magistrate soon after his father left the neighbourhood. Sir John is described as "late of Haverfordwest" in a Deed executed in 1765 by his son and successor, Sir John Powell Pryce. That Deed recites that Sir John was seized of certain properties in Carmarthenshire subject to mortgages, and that by his will, dated 20th June 1760, he devised all his lands and tenements—subject to his debts, legacies (including £1,000 to his daughter Elizabeth, and £600 to his daughter Mary), and funeral expenses—to one Margaret Harries of Haverfordwest, spinster, who renounced probate and execution of the will; and, consequently, Sir John Powell Pryce and his sisters are stated to have taken out Letters of Administration with will annexed. His estates, at the time of his death, are said by Hulbert to have produced a rental of upwards of £40,000 a year, evidently a gross exaggeration. His portrait, or, what purports to be such, is at Milford Hall.[1]

[1] The family portraits were, with most of the old furniture and effects, sold by auction many years ago. Several of them were pur-

He was succeeded in the title and estates by his son, John Powell Pryce, who married Elizabeth,[1] daughter of Richard Manley, Esq., of Earleigh Court, Berkshire. His fate was a melancholy one. Having by some accident severely injured his eyes, his wife was induced, in the hope to facilitate his recovery, to apply some powerful spirit or acid, which entirely destroyed his sight. Yet he is said to have been accustomed, though blind, to follow the hounds, and seldom to be the last in the chase. Want of prudence, or accumulated misfortunes, also deprived him of the bulk of his fortune, and he died in the King's Bench Prison, on the 4th July 1776, but was buried, it seems, at Newtown. His widow died in London, in reduced circumstances, in 1805. His son, Sir Edward Manley Pryce, was found dead in a field at Pangbourne, near Reading, the 28th June 1791. He is said to have died in great destitution, having left not even the means to pay the expense of his interment; and that his body, consequently, remained unburied for forty-five weeks, when at last some benevolent persons had it buried at their cost. Dying without lawful issue, and, as Yorke says, a bachelor,[2] the title became extinct at his death.—

chased by the late Mr. Long and taken to Dolforgan, and are now said to be at Rood Ashton, in Wiltshire. Sir John's portrait, in a very dilapidated state, was purchased by the late Mr. John Gittins, flannel merchant, who sent it to London to be "restored". After his death it was sold by auction in November 1869 to the late Major Drew of Milford Hall.

[1] There is at Newtown Hall a portrait in oil of a lady, with the artist's name, and date, "Jon Lewis 1752". It is supposed to be that of this lady.

[2] This statement is, however, disputed, some saying that he married a daughter of a Mr. Flinn of Norfolk Street, Strand, London, by whom he had an only son, who died an infant in his father's lifetime. At any rate, some years after his death, a coffin inclosing the remains of a child was discovered over the ceiling in the roof of a house at Chiswick, with the following inscription on a plate nailed to it:—"Edward Manley Powell Pryce, Esq., only son and heir of Sir Edward Manley Pryce of Newtown Hall, Montgomeryshire, Bart., died the 28th of April 1788, aged five years and a half." See "Newspaper Cutting, 1814", in *Mont. Coll.*, ix, p. 414.

(Pennant's *Tours*, iii, p. 189; Yorke's *Royal Tribes of Wales*, p. 135; Hulbert's *Salop*, p. 56; *Arch. Camb.*, v (2nd series), 108.

Pryce, Matthew, Esq., M.P., of Park, Llanwnog, was the eldest son of John Pryce, Esq.,[1] of the same place, who represented a junior branch of the Pryces of Newtown Hall, and was born in the year 1639. He sat in Parliament, for the borough of Montgomery, from 1678 to 1685. He married Hester, twelfth daughter of John Thelwall, Esq., of Bathafarn, Denbighshire, but left no issue. He died on the 23rd of January 1699—the tradition being that he was drowned in Afon Garno, in going home to Park from Penstrowed Hall. After his death, a handsome marble monument was placed to his memory, by his widow, in Llanwnog Church, with the following long inscription:—

"Here lieth interr'd the Body of Mathew Pryce of Parkpen price in the County of Montgomery Esqr who was Eldest Son of John Pryce of Park aforesaid Esqr (by Mary, Daughter of William Read of Castle Bromshill in the County of Gloucester Esqr) who was only Son of Mathew Pryce of Park Esqr (by Catherine Eldest daughter of Lewis Gwynne of Llanidloes Esqr) who was second Son of John Pryce of Newtown Hall in ye County of Montgomery Esqr.

"As He had the Happiness to be descended from an Antient & Worshipfull Family, so he took Care to improve ye Advantages of his Birth & Fortune, that He might be able to distinguish himself No less by his own personal Worth and Merits than by the Dignity and lustre of his Ancestors. His known Abilities & Integrity recommended him to the Service of his Prince & Country. In several Imployments and Important Trusts At ye Barr an Able & Learned Councellour, on ye Bench an Upright and Vigilant Justice of ye Peace. In ye Militia a Loyal & Active Deputy Livetenant & Captain of ye County Troop. And in Parliament where He had the Honour to serve as Burgess for Montgomery, In ye two last Parliaments of King Charles ye Seconds Reign. He shew'd himself a good Patriot & True Lover of his Country In all these

[1] There is in Llanwnog church a handsome marble shield of arms of John Pryce, with the motto, "Sa prostrasse leoni." It is placed against the south wall, right above the *piscina*.

Honourable Trusts He acquitted himself with Inviolable Fidelity to his Prince with eminent Care & zeal for ye good and Prosperity of his Country & With Singular Duty and observance to his Mother ye Church of England, of which he always approved himself A True & obedient Son & A zealous and steady Defender of her Rights & Constitution. Nor was He less Exemplary in ye Vertues that adorn a private Life in respect of which He Worthily sustain'd ye Character of A Wise and Truly Honest Man & of A Sincere & Hearty Christian.

"He married Hester Thelwall ye Twelfth Daughter of John Thelwall of Bathavern Park in ye County of Denbigh Esqr, who surviving Him and desireous to transmitt His deserved Character to Posterity at her sole Charge Erected this Monument as well to be A Publick & lasting Mark of that true Love & Affection She had for him when alive, as for ye Respect & Veneration she retains for the memory of her deceas'd Husband.

"He died ye 23rd of Jan. A.D. 1699. Annoque Ætat. Suæ 60."

This monument was originally placed against the southern wall of the church, over the *piscina*. On the so-called restoration of the church some eighteen or twenty years ago, it was taken down and cast into the churchyard, where it lay neglected for some time, and small portions of it were chipped off. At last, John Pryce Davies, Esq. (a descendant of Matthew Pryce's sister and co-heiress, Mary, wife of John Edwards, Esq., of Melinygrug) took charge of it and had it removed to Bronfelen, where it remained for about twelve months, after which he had it carefully put up again on the left side of the altar, where it now is. The Benefaction Table has the following inscription :—"Hester Pryce, widdow and Relict of Matthew Pryce of Park, Esqr., gave a large silver challice and salver to the use of this Church in ye year of our Lord One Thousand seven Hundred and seven." There is a similar inscription on the cup itself.—(*Mont. Coll.*, iv, 152 ; *Byegones*, Dec. 7th, 1881 ; *Cam. Quar. Mag.*, i, 31.)

PUGH, ROWLAND, Esquire, of Mathafarn, in the parish

of Llanwrin, was a descendant of Dafydd Llwyd ab Llewelyn, of the same place, a celebrated poet of the fifteenth century and a man of great wealth. He was the son of Richard Pugh, by Gaynor, his wife, and studied the law at the Inner Temple, of which he was entered a member in 1598. His grandfather, of the same name, represented the borough of Montgomery, in Parliament, in 1572, and again in 1588-9.[1] In 1602, he became Steward of the lordship of Cyfeiliog, and, in 1606, a Magistrate. He was, also, twice Sheriff, namely, in 1609 and 1626. He was twice married; first to Elizabeth, daughter of Sir Richard Price, of Gogerddan, by whom he had two daughters; and, secondly, to Mary, widow of Thomas Jones, of Llanbadarn, by whom he had a son and heir, John Pugh. He was a staunch royalist, and for his zeal in that cause his house was, on the 29th November 1644, burnt down by a troop of Parliamentary soldiers. He died in less than a month after that, namely, on the day after Christmas, and was buried at Conway. His arms were, *Argent*, a lion passant *sable*, between three fleurs-de-lis *gules*.—(*Mont. Coll.*, v, 488; and xv, p. 410; *Cam. Quar. Mag.*, i, 70.)

Pugh, John, Esquire, of Mathafarn, was the son and heir of the above-named Rowland Pugh, by Mary, his wife, and was, like his father, a devoted royalist. Upon the restoration of Charles II, his name was included in the list of gentlemen who were deemed fit and qualified to be made knights of the then intended, but subsequently abandoned, Order of the Royal Oak, as a reward for their fidelity to the royal cause. His estate was then (1660) valued at £1,000. His grandson, of the same name, represented the borough of Montgomery, in Parliament, from 1708 to 1727. The Mathafarn estates were sold, in 1752, to Sir W. W. Wynn, Bart., for £33,400, and now form part of the

[1] In *Mont. Coll.*, xv, p. 410, the subject of this notice is stated to have been the borough member. This is an error arising from the identity of his name with that of his grandfather.

Wynnstay property.—(*Gw. Mechain's Works*, iii, 206; *Cam. Quar. Mag.*, i, 70.)

PUGH, WILLIAM, Esq., of Brynllywarch, was born at Pennant, Berriew, on the 26th December 1783. He was the only son and heir of William Pugh, Esq., of Pennant, afterwards of Caerhowel, by Frances, his wife, eldest daughter of Richard Lewis, Esq., of Welshpool. His father, whose family owned property in Kerry for at least two centuries previously to his birth, was one of the leading attorneys in Montgomeryshire, and accumulated a large fortune. He became the owner of considerable landed property, and served the office of Sheriff in 1813. He died 23rd November 1823, aged 75, and was buried at Kerry. The subject of this memoir was at an early age sent to Rugby School, where he remained until 1802. He then entered Trinity College, Cambridge, and pursued his studies there, taking his B.A. degree in 1806, and his M.A. in 1812. During his University career, he secured the acquaintance and friendship of several gentlemen who, in after life, attained great eminence, among others the late Lord Palmerston and Sir Robert Peel. On leaving College, Mr. Pugh proceeded to the study of the law, and entered as a student at Lincoln's Inn, on the 5th February 1805. He became a pupil of Mr. Humphreys, a Chancery barrister and conveyancer of high standing, and was called to the bar, by the Hon. Society of Lincoln's Inn, on the 11th February 1813, but never practised, his object in studying the law and procuring a call to the bar having been to better qualify himself for the position he was destined to occupy as a magistrate and country gentleman. He was appointed a Deputy Lieutenant in December 1807; Captain in the Royal Western Regiment of Local Militia, 25th April 1809, and Major, 21st May 1813; and a Justice of the Peace, 17th April 1817. On the 5th June 1816, Mr. Pugh married Beatrice Matilda, youngest daughter of Richard Dennison, Esq., M.D., Brighton, and great-grandchild of Mrs. Jane Buckley, of Dolfor. By this

marriage the Dolfor estate came into Mr. Pugh's family. After his marriage, Mr. Pugh resided for some time at Mellington, Churchstoke, whence he removed to the old family mansion at Brynllywarch, Kerry. In 1829, after his mother's death (13th January 1828) he sold the Caerhowel estate, comprising the mansion and several valuable farms—in all, upwards of 439 acres—and rebuilt and enlarged Brynllywarch. His wife died on the 26th of June 1828, aged 38, leaving by him five children, namely, Frances Matilda (who died unmarried at Beverley, Worcester, in September 1843), William Buckley, Price Buckley, Laura Seraphina (married to Dr. W. M. Beddowes, of Shrewsbury, since deceased), and Geraldine Hannah, all of whom, except the first-named, still survive.

Soon after attaining his majority, Mr. Pugh began to take an active and leading part in the public affairs of Montgomeryshire, and in the setting on foot and promotion of various important movements, enterprises, and improvements—some of the chief of which, indeed, owe their origin, prosecution and successful completion, almost entirely to his public spirit and energy. Besides performing with exemplary zeal his duties as a magistrate, he was an active trustee of Kerry School, and took an energetic part in the carrying out of the Kedewen and other Inclosure Acts, the improvement of turnpike roads, and the obtaining of the Montgomeryshire Turnpike Act, the building of a new bridge over the Severn at Newtown, and various other local and public improvements. He invested over £7,000 in Montgomeryshire Roads Bonds. He was also mainly instrumental in making the new road from Newtown into Radnorshire, completed and opened for traffic in June 1823—a work of very great public utility, to which he devoted much labour and energy, and in which he invested over £10,000, the greater portion of which the South Wales Roads Commissioners subsequently, for some reason, declined to recognise. But the most important, perhaps, of all the undertakings he

engaged in was the Western Branch of the Montgomeryshire Canal, being an extension of the canal system from Garthmill to Newtown. It is not too much to say that Mr. Pugh was the life and soul of this enterprise, and in it he held (as appears from a statement made out in 1841) shares to the amount of £26,000 and mortgage bonds for £25,000, besides £1,700 which he had paid towards the expenses of an Act of Parliament in 1834 (total, £52,700), of which, practically, he never saw a farthing again, and received but little in the shape of interest or dividends. The Branch Canal was begun in 1819 and completed in 1821, at a cost, up to that time, of £56,232 8*s.*, subsequently increased to £81,716 10*s.* 7*d.* up to 1846. The immediate result was a reduction of at least 30 per cent. in the price of coal and lime, and a very considerable reduction in the price of other commodities. It is difficult to over-estimate the advantages derived from this extension by the manufacturing and agricultural classes of Newtown, Llanidloes, and the surrounding districts. It led to Newtown becoming the centre of the flannel manufacture of Wales, and in the course of fifteen years, to an increase of its wealth and population at least sevenfold. On the opening of the canal to Newtown, the following resolution was passed by the proprietors, at a meeting held at the *Rock* on the 4th of August 1821 :—

"Resolved, that the Proprietors cannot receive the information, communicated by the Report now read, of the successful results arising from the completion of the Canal, without expressing and recording in the strongest manner their sense of the important advantages derived from the unremitting assistance and superintendence of Mr. W. Pugh in the execution of the work. The Proprietors are assured not only that the Canal could not have been completed in the excellent and perfect manner in which it has been made without that superintendence ; but that it would at this time have been, in a great and most important part, unfinished, unless the difficulties that have attended its progress in its various details had been met by his active, skilful, and judicious exertions.

"That the warmest thanks of the Proprietors be presented

to Mr. William Pugh for the great and valuable assistance he has so kindly and so usefully afforded throughout the whole progress of the Canal, together with a piece of Plate of the value of One Hundred Guineas, in testimony of the sincere regard and high respect they entertain for him."

The plate, presented with the above resolution, consisted of three large tureens and other articles. On two of the tureens the following inscription was engraved:—

"This piece of plate was presented to William Pugh, Esq., by the Proprietors of the Western Branch of the Montgomeryshire Canal, on the 3rd of August 1822."

On the other:—

"As a grateful, though inadequate testimony of their sense of his foresight and activity in promoting the beneficial measure of extending the line of Canal to Newtown, as well as his indefatigable exertions for the interests of the Company during the progress of the works, the Proprietors of the Western Branch of the Montgomeryshire Canal presented this piece of Plate to William Pugh, Esq., on the 3rd day of August 1822."

A valuable piece of plate, consisting of a silver chandelier or epergne, purchased by public subscription, was also presented to Mr. Pugh,[1] which bore the following inscription:—

"Presented to William Pugh, Esq., by the Inhabitants of Newtown, as a token of their esteem and gratitude for the very great and successful exertions made by him to promote the prosperity and the trade of that place."

At an early period of his life, when country squires were, as a rule, either Tories or moderate Whigs, Mr. Pugh attached himself to the then unpopular school of advanced Liberals; and soon came to be recognized as one of the leaders of his party in Montgomeryshire. He was a strenuous supporter of the great movement which resulted in the passing of the Reform Act of 1832. Montgomeryshire largely partook of the intense

[1] The whole of these articles were sold with Mr. Pugh's other effects in 1836. Mr. W. B. Pugh, after his return to England in 1843, turned into a silversmith's shop in London, and there, strange to say, he saw several of them on sale, which he at once purchased, and they are now in his possession.

excitement of those days. Chiefly through Mr. Pugh's exertions, county and other public meetings in favour of Reform were held, and petitions signed by upwards of three thousand persons were sent up to both Houses of Parliament. Newtown and its neighbourhood especially took up the cause with great zeal, where the public excitement and irritation of the working classes were, unfortunately, increased to a dangerous degree by the following untoward incident. A few days before Christmas 1830, six men from Newtown, in consequence of the stagnation of trade in that place, went round the neighbourhood to solicit charity, and amongst other houses called at Glansevern, the seat of William Owen, Esquire, who immediately gave them in charge to a constable, and directed them to be taken before a neighbouring magistrate, where Mr. Owen attended and charged them with highway robbery! On this charge they were remanded to gaol, to be brought up again for examination on the 1st of January 1831. Exasperated at this, a mob of three or four hundred men and boys from Newtown went in a body to Glansevern on the 31st December 1830, threatening Mr. Owen with vengeance. So peremptory were they in their demand for the liberation of the prisoners, that they compelled him to mount his horse and accompany them to Montgomery to release them. This proceeding came to the ears of Mr. Pugh, who hastened from Newtown to the scene. Near Montgomery he met the rioters bringing home the released prisoners in triumph. He at once ordered the procession to stop, and alighting from his carriage addressed the crowd, pointing out to them the egregious folly and illegality of their conduct, and peremptorily demanded that the released prisoners should be given up to him. Mr. Pugh, it should be stated, had some years previously earned the gratitude of the Newtown operatives, by collecting and distributing among them £400, to keep them from starving when out of work. This, and other acts of kindness, had made him extremely popular with the working

classes. The men, therefore, knowing with whom they had to deal, immediately complied with his demand, and delivered up the prisoners to him. He directed them to enter his carriage, and then drove to Newtown and thence to Kerry, where he kept them at his own house that night. They were not locked up, but were treated like his own servants. Early next morning he drove them over to Montgomery, and lodged them safely in the county gaol. The same day they were brought before the Lord Lieutenant and a full bench of magistrates for examination, when they were all discharged. Several of the rioters were subsequently apprehended, and committed for trial at the assizes, when all pleaded guilty, and one of them (who had carried a flag in the procession), was sentenced to six months', and the others to shorter terms of imprisonment. The above episode shews not only Mr. Pugh's extreme popularity and almost unbounded influence over the working class, but also his strict impartiality and love of justice. So excited were the populace of Newtown at this time, that it was considered necessary to swear in many hundreds of special constables—(351 were sworn in the adjoining parishes of Kerry and Mochdre)—and to hold the cavalry in readiness. However, owing in a great degree to the prudent and moderate counsels and firmness of Mr. Pugh, serious breaches of the peace, though feared, were happily averted. On the dissolution of Parliament in April 1831, Mr. Pugh was urged by a large number of freeholders in the neighbourhood of Newtown, to contest the seat for the county against the old member Mr. C. W. W. Wynn. This, however, he declined in the following address :—

"*To the Freeholders of the County of Montgomery resident in Newtown.*

"Brother Freeholders,—I have this day received your application, requesting me to come forward as a candidate for the county at the ensuing election ; and I beg to offer you my most sincere thanks for this very flattering mark of your kindness and confidence, but which I feel it my duty to de-

cline, as by so doing, I am confident I shall forward the great object of Parliamentary Reform, which I consider absolutely necessary to insure the peace and happiness of this kingdom.

"The advertisement published on Monday last, announcing that a candidate favourable to Reform would offer himself, was under the direction of several gentlemen of the first respectability in the county, and in which I most cordially joined.

"Anxious to secure such a candidate, a request has been made to a gentleman of rank and consequence to come forward. His answer has not been received, but should he unfortunately decline, I beg to pledge myself most positively, that a candidate shall be offered to your notice, without delay, who will engage to support the measure of Parliamentary Reform as proposed by his Majesty's Ministers.

"This is the cause of the people, and you have truly said 'England expects every man to do his duty!' It is by the exertions of you, and such as you, that the cause must triumph. Earnestly do I implore you to continue the exertions you have already made. Let every man explain to his neighbour the vital importance of the measure, and the absolute necessity of acting as if the salvation of his country depended on his individual exertion. Let all act 'according to the dictates of his own judgment, unbiased by interest, fear, or by partial affection', which is the most earnest recommendation of your friend and neighbour,

"William Pugh."

"Brynllywarch, 27th April 1831."

Mr. Joseph Hayes Lyon, however, came forward and was proposed by Mr. Pugh, but was not successful.[1] In 1833, Mr. Pugh was again urged to allow himself to be put in nomination for the Boroughs, in the event of the sitting member, Colonel (afterwards Sir John) Edwards, being unseated on petition; a contingency, however, which did not arise.

Mr. Pugh took a great interest in the prosperity of the staple trade and manufactures of Newtown, and was one of the most prominent of those to whose exertions were due the removal of the flannel market from Welshpool to Newtown, the building of the Public Rooms, and the

[1] The expenses of Mr. Lyon's candidature amounted, it seems, to £1,813 18*s*., towards which Mr. Pugh contributed £536 6*s*., and Colonel Edwards a similar sum.

introduction of gas at the latter place—to all of which he contributed considerable sums of money. He also exerted himself much between 1833 and 1835, in endeavouring to introduce steam power and improved machinery for the manufacture of flannels into Newtown; but the want of enterprise among the masters, and the short-sighted opposition of the operatives prevented this being fully accomplished in his life-time, and for some years after his death. He also took the lead, and mainly through his energy brought to a successful issue, the movement for removing the summer assizes from Welshpool to Newtown. Petitions and counter petitions, signed in the aggregate by over 11,000 freeholders and others, together with a mass of evidence, were got up on behalf of the rival towns, and at last an Order of the Privy Council was obtained in June 1835, complying with the prayer of the petitioners, as soon as a proper court and lock-up house should be provided. Various delays, however, took place, and the assizes were not actually held at Newtown until the 25th July 1840,—Lord Denman being the judge on that occasion.

Hitherto, no newspaper had ever been published in Montgomeryshire. Mr. Pugh, and a few other like-minded with himself, felt, however, that the time had come when an effort should be made to establish a local journal; and in a very great measure through his exertions, and in consideration of his personally indemnifying the publisher against loss to the extent of £300, the *Montgomeryshire Herald*, was started. The first number was issued at Newtown by John Williams, the publisher, on Monday, the 15th of June 1835, price sevenpence, and came out weekly for several months, but was afterwards discontinued for want of support.

In consequence of the large sums expended by Mr. Pugh in promoting various enterprises, and particularly of the large amount of his capital that was locked up in the Montgomeryshire Canal, several Montgomery-

shire turnpike roads, the new road into Radnorshire, and several other undertakings, none of which proved such remunerative investments as he had expected they would be, his estate became much incumbered, and his income considerably diminished. He had, for several years, been endeavouring, in vain, owing to the hostility and obstruction of two or three individuals on the Canal Board, to obtain a settlement of his claims, or even securities from that company, for his own money and many thousands of pounds which he had borrowed of others for the use of the company, and had been applied for its purposes; but for which he, unfortunately, had made himself personally responsible, and paid interest out of his private estate. These, and his other creditors, now became very pressing, and although he had still the utmost confidence in the Canal and other undertakings as valuable properties and a good investment, the continual drain upon his private resources, and the increasing clamour of his creditors, made it evident that he could no longer hold out against his growing embarrassments. He, therefore, determined at once to realise his property in order to pay his debts; but in the meantime he found it necessary for his personal safety to leave the country, and seek a refuge in France from the importunities of his creditors. In June 1835, therefore, he took up his residence with his children at Caen, where he spent the remainder of his days in close retirement.

In October 1835, the Brynllywarch estate[1] and

[1] The auctioneer (the celebrated George Robins) in his advertisement thus describes the property in his usual florid style: "A singularly important and very eligible Freehold estate which it is believed will not yield in its influence and great advantages to any property that has been introduced this season to the consideration of the monied world. It is situate in a County where the last year's experience has demonstrated that the wealthy prefer the certain tenure of Terra Firma to the more equivocal enjoyment of funded property. The influential power, which will necessarily appertain to the possessor of this vast domain of most excellent meadow, pasture, and arable land, needs hardly to be the subject of remark; the situation gives to it a most important qualification.

some of the Montgomeryshire Canal shares were brought under the hammer, and, the following spring, the farming stock, furniture, and other effects were sold. Some, we are sorry to say, of those who, in the time of his prosperity, had availed themselves of Mr. Pugh's friendship and support, now turned their backs upon him, and even exhibited some vindictiveness towards him.

To make up, in some measure, the loss of his income, a Bill in Mr. Pugh's interest was, with the concurrence and support of the majority of the Proprietors of the western branch of the Canal, introduced in Parliament in 1838, to increase the tonnage dues on the Canal. This proposal was, to their honour, warmly supported by the most influential traders and agriculturists in Newtown and neighbourhood, who could not forget their immense obligations to Mr. Pugh in connection with the Canal, and who deeply sympathised with him in his misfortunes. The measure, however, met with determined hostility from other quarters, and, in March 1838, was thrown out on the motion of its second reading by a majority of 77 to 3. This was a grievous blow and a sore disappointment to Mr. Pugh, but in his exile and misfortunes he was greatly comforted by the receipt of the following address from his old friends and neighbours, the merchants, manufacturers, and other inhabitants of Newtown :—

"Sir,—Although a period of some years has unfortunately separated you from us, we consider the present time opportune to publicly address you.

. . . . The estate under consideration includes 27 Freehold Farms, exceeding 3,500 acres, tenants unexceptionable, contented, and affluent. . . . . The London Mail passes daily through this vast territory of the fruitful produce of a rich soil (*sic*). . . . . These are only a few of the advantages that appear to be almost exclusively the inheritance of the possessor of this fine property. . . . . The present low rental is about £4,000 a year." The bulk of the property was sold to Mr. Bullen, a wealthy Liverpool banker, from whom the present proprietor (John Naylor, Esq.) has derived it.

"We do so for several reasons. First, from a high personal respect for you. Secondly, from the deep sense of obligation and gratitude we owe you as an indefatigable public benefactor, whose valuable time, energetic talents, and independent fortune have ever been devoted, with ceaseless perseverance, to extend the commerce of our town, to improve the agriculture of our county, and to maintain the poor in industrious (although humble) independence. And, thirdly, that your mind may be relieved from the distressing impression, that while you have thus, by your restless anxiety, effected the great objects of your patriotic endeavours, we fear lest our silence may cause you to imagine that the inhabitants of Newtown remain, with remorseless and callous ingratitude, unaffected spectators of your great exertions in our favour, or unfeeling observers of your undeserved misfortune. We beg to assure you, with the most earnest and unfeigned seriousness, that we have never heard of any disappointment or circumstance which was likely to cause you unhappiness, without feeling the most poignant sorrow; nor have we ever been made acquainted with any occurrence likely to promote your interest or to gratify your feelings, without gladly and deeply entering into its merits.

"Twelve months ago we received your address relative to the propriety of raising the tonnage on the Canal, as an act of justice to yourself due by the public. In that desire we fully acquiesced, although we were not unconscious of the consequences likely to accrue; but our minds were too strongly imbued with the justice of your desire to cause us to imagine that we ought to participate in the expenditure of your large capital without your obtaining an equitable remuneration; and we entertain no doubt that it will be *especially* gratifying to you to learn that the operative and industrious classes entered most zealously into the subject, from a just sense of your sacrifice, and a thankful remembrance and appreciation of your integrity as a magistrate.

"We lament that the disposal of your estates should have become a matter of necessity; but having known for some time that it has been an object of your desire, we beg to congratulate you on the result, which we trust will prove as satisfactory to you as we sanguinely anticipate.

"Our sympathy and regret have, in common with a great mass of our fellow-townsmen, been powerfully excited in your favour by the unjust and cruel persecutions to which you have been subjected; and our minds have been naturally led to dwell on your sufferings, which are the result of your anxieties

for the benefit of your native county; and while we admire your moral and manly resignation, and rejoice to see your lofty character displayed, we can but hold in utter detestation the rancorous fatuity of your open, disguised, and malignant enemies, comprised of men who, individually and collectively have benefited thousands by your efforts, and from whom no gratitude could be too munificent.

"Gladly, indeed, would we have avoided recurrence to this subject, but we feel it due to ourselves and fellow-townsmen to enter our protest against such violent and ungentlemanly behaviour, which induces the melancholy conviction, that the love of justice and the good of this county are not the objects which influence those on whose proceedings we have thus commented.

"During the eventful period of your public intercourse with this town, never did its inhabitants more require your assistance than at the present time, not only as a country gentleman, but most distinctly and especially as a public magistrate; and, although we now address you as an inhabitant of a foreign land, most fervently do we pray that you will shortly return to your native county, and that your useful and patriotic life may long be spared to enjoy in repose and in the bosom of your sincere friends the fruits of your unparalleled exertions and sacrifices."

[Here follow the signatures of several hundreds mentioned at the end of the address.]

To the above Mr. Pugh replied as follows:—

"*To the Merchants, Manufacturers, Tradesmen and others of the Town and Neighbourhood of Newtown.*

"GENTLEMEN,—I feel unable to find words sufficiently strong to express the pleasure and gratification I have received from your address.

"I beg to assure you, that so far from regretting, in the smallest degree, any sacrifices which I have made in forwarding the completion of the public works in your neighbourhood, I would most cheerfully, under similar circumstances, again incur the same, being assured by you that my humble exertions have been beneficial to my native county, and that my conduct has met your approbation.

"Notwithstanding the extraordinary opposition to your wishes, and consequent failure of the Canal Bill last session of Parliament, I trust, nevertheless, at no very distant period, that I shall have the gratification of personally thanking you

for the great kindness you have expressed towards me on this and on all other occasions,

"And am, Gentlemen, your sincerely obliged,

"W. PUGH."

"Caen, 22nd October 1838."

It will be seen that Mr. Pugh still cherished hopes of being able to make arrangements with his creditors which would enable him to return to his native county —hopes, alas! which were never realised. Though debarred from personally taking part in them, he still watched closely through the "loopholes of retreat", and with his pen actively supported the anti-corn law agitation, and other public movements of that day; and, in an especial manner, took deep interest in everything calculated to promote the welfare and prosperity of his much-loved Montgomeryshire. From the first introduction of railways, he was keenly alive to the superior advantages of that over all other existing modes of conveyance and communication, and was anxious that Montgomeryshire should early participate in its benefits. In the spring of 1840, a Government inquiry was held with the object of ascertaining the best route for railway communication between London and Ireland, towards which the Chancellor of the Exchequer had announced the willingness of Government to grant a subsidy of two millions. The Commissioners were Sir Frederick Smith and Professor Barlow. While the inquiry was going on, and the Commissioners were engaged in examining the claims of the proposed North-Western route, *via* Shrewsbury and Chester to Holyhead, of which Mr. Robert Stephenson was the engineer; and a rival route from Birmingham, *via* Shrewsbury, Bala, and Dolgelley to Porthdinlleyn, surveyed by Mr. Vignoles; Mr. Pugh, although so far away, succeeded, with the aid of a committee formed at Worcester, in having the inquiry extended to a third route, commencing by a junction at Didcot with the Great Western Railway, and proceeding through Oxford, Worcester, Ludlow, Newtown, and Dolgelley

to Porthdinlleyn. Mr. T. G. Newnham, a local surveyor, and others were employed (Mr. Pugh, out of his then limited means, contributing a large portion of the cost), to make careful surveys of the Mongomeryshire route, and to get up evidence in its favour. Mr. Pugh, by correspondence, directed the fight before the Commissioners with his characteristic energy; and Messrs. Stephenson, Brunel, Vignoles, and other engineers and scientific men of great eminence were examined as to the merits of the rival routes. Eventually, however, the Commissioners reported in favour of the Holyhead line, which in course of time was completed.[1]

Mr. Pugh had never indulged in any expensive tastes or habits, but had always lived very quietly and frugally so far as his personal and domestic expenditure was concerned. His Caerhowel and Brynllywarch estates—a very fine property, producing a rental of at least £5,000 a year—and his furniture and effects, produced a very large amount; his eldest son gave up, also, half the settled property towards paying the creditors; yet for all this the latter were not paid in full, and Mr. Pugh's return to his native land was therefore delayed month after month, and year after year, until the "hope deferred" made his heart very sick. It has never been satisfactorily shewn what

[1] A mass of correspondence and papers which I have had the opportunity of perusing, discloses the fact that Mr. Stephenson originally proposed to cross the Menai Straits by a *wooden* bridge. As to the Porthdinlleyn line, it was proposed to carry it across the Severn, near Newtown, along a high viaduct or embankment, 136 feet above the level of the canal! But one of the principal objections to that route was a tunnel of more than three miles in length, through solid porphyry, which would have to be made between Dinas Mowddwy and Dolgelley, at an estimated cost of £330,000, and as to which Mr. Newnham complacently wrote: "Sir Frederick came to the conclusion that it would require 20 years to make it, but Mr. Brunel will, I think, be able to make it appear that it may be completed in 10 years"! Mr. Newnham's proposed viaduct over the Mawddach was to be 169 feet high, but Mr. Vignoles's was to be 200 feet high!

became of all the money, for even after taking into account all the expenditure above referred to, on the Canal, the Montgomeryshire and Radnorshire roads, elections, and other matters, there must have been a very large surplus unaccounted for. One thing is certain, it never came into Mr. Pugh's hands, nor into those of any member of his family. At last, enfeebled and worn out by anxiety and disappointments, and grieved by his long exile from the Montgomeryshire he loved so well, and for whose prosperity he had sacrificed everything, Mr. Pugh's naturally vigorous constitution became an easy prey to disease; he was struck down by paralysis; and on the 4th of March 1842, he died, in the fifty-ninth year of his age, at Caen, where also he was buried. His family immediately returned to England.

The arms of Pugh are, *Argent*, a lion passant *sable*, between three fleurs-de-lis *gules*. Crest, a dolphin embowed *proper*. A large photograph of Mr. Pugh, copied from an oil painting, has been presented to the Powysland Museum by his son, Mr. W. Buckley Pugh.

Ravens, Rev. Nathaniel, was Vicar of Welshpool in "Oliver's time", but was ejected on the restoration in 1660 for Nonconformity, and was succeeded by the Rev. W. Langford. The value of the living at that time is stated at £46 18*s.* 9*d.* (*Calamy's Noncon. Memorial*, 2nd edition, volume iii, p. 494.)

Rees, Dr. Abraham, the eminent encyclopædist was born at the Old Chapel house,[1] Llanbrynmair, in the year 1743, where his father, the Rev. Lewis Rees, was pastor of the Independent Church. He was educated for the ministry at the Carmarthen Academy, then conducted by Dr. Jenkins, whence he proceeded to that at Hoxton, London, then jointly conducted by Drs. Jennings and Savage. On the death of Dr. Jennings in 1762, Dr. Kippis was appointed classical tutor, and

[1] The house stood in front of the chapel, across the road. It was pulled down about 32 years ago, and its site now forms part of the burial-ground.

Mr. Rees, although he was so young, became mathematical tutor,—an appointment which he held with great distinction for twenty-two years. In 1766, he was ordained minister of a Presbyterian Church in the parish of St. Thomas's, Southwark. Here he laboured for fifteen years, during which his literary attainments procured for him from the University of Edinburgh, at the express desire of Dr. Robertson the historian, the degree of Doctor of Divinity. In 1781, he removed to the Old Jewry, where his ministry prospered so greatly that his congregation found it necessary to build for him a larger chapel in Jewin Street, where he continued top reach as long as the state of his health permitted. About 1777, he undertook the editorship of a new edition of *Chambers's Cyclopædia,*—a task which cost him immense labour. The work came out in numbers, extending over nine years, and was completed in 1786, in four large folio volumes. The matter was more than half of it new and furnished by himself, and the profound ability and learning which the work displayed caused it to be immediately translated into several continental languages ; and procured for its learned editor the honour of being elected a Fellow of the Royal Society. Many foreign literary and scientific bodies also paid him the compliment of enrolling him among their members. The Hoxton Academy was broken up about 1785, and, in 1786, a new one was established in its stead at Hackney, with which Drs. Kippis, Price, and Priestley were at first associated, but, eventually, the whole weight of its management fell upon Dr. Rees. Political and doctrinal differences arose among the subcribers, and after a few years' chequered existence this academy also was broken up. In 1802, he published the first half-yearly volume of his great undertaking, commonly known as *Rees's Cyclopædia,* a work of stupendous magnitude, which he brought to a successful termination in forty-five volumes, quarto. Although he had many able assistants in this great work, a large proportion of the articles were written by himself, and the

plan and arrangement of the whole were entirely his own. His other publications were *Economy Illustrated and Recommended; Antidote to the Alarm of Invasion; Principles of Protestant Dissenters Stated and Vindicated;* and several volumes of sermons. Dr. Rees was one of the earliest members of the Linnæan Society. He was also, for many years, President of the Presbyterian Board in London; a Director of Dr. Williams's Fund, and of the library founded by him in Redcross Street; one of the chief directors of the City Road Orphan Working School; and an active member of most of the charitable institutions of the metropolis. He at all times took a leading part in most of the religious movements of those days promoted by the Nonconformists in London. He was an able preacher, though his religious opinions, which were Arian or Unitarian of the old school, were not acceptable to many of his co-religionists. In politics he was a firm friend of religious and political liberty, but opposed to all resort to violence or rioting. On the 3rd of May 1820 he headed a deputation of eighty-nine Dissenting Ministers to present King George the Fourth with an address on his accession to the Throne. It was remarked, that he was the only one present who had also been present when a similar address was presented to the late King in 1760. He was a great favourite of the Duke of Sussex, who associated his portrait with that of Dr. Parr to ornament his principal library at Kensington Palace. He died on the 9th of June 1825, aged 82 years, after a long and laborious life, in the full possession of his faculties, and was buried in Bunhill Fields.—(*Seren Gomer*, May 1826; Williams's *Eminent Welshmen*, etc.)

Rees, Rev. Thomas, a nephew of Dr. Abraham Rees, was brought up a bookseller, but left that trade for the ministry, under his uncle's superintendence. He became pastor of a Unitarian Church at Hackney, and was also author of the following works:—*A New System of Stenograph*, 8vo., 1795; *The Duty of Chris-*

tians, etc.: a Discourse delivered at Portsmouth, 8vo., 1811; *A Sermon preached at Newton Green on the death of J. Lane*, 8vo., 1812.—(*Brython*, v, p. 33.)

Rhiwallon ab Cynfyn, on the death of prince Gruffydd ab Llywelyn in 1062, became joint sovereign with his brother Bleddyn of Powys and North Wales. In 1068, however, Meredydd and Ithel, the sons of the late prince, raised an army to recover possession of their sovereign rights, and a severe battle was fought between the contending hosts at Mechain, when Rhiwallon on the one side and Ithel on the other were slain, the result being that Bleddyn became sole sovereign of Powys and Gwynedd, Meredydd being "put to flight, whome Blethyn pursued so straightlie, that he starved for cold and hunger upon the mountaines."—(Powel's *History of Cambria;* Williams's *Eminent Welshmen*, etc.)

Richards, Rev. David, of Llansilin, was born at Darowen in 1783, and was the second son of the Rev. Thomas Richards, vicar of that parish. He was educated at Ystradmeurig, and was admitted to orders, and licensed to the curacy of Llansilin; and subsequently, in 1819, promoted by Bishop Luxmoore to the vicarage of that parish, which he held until his death. As a clergyman, Mr. Richards performed his sacred duties with conscientious zeal and devotion, exhibiting towards those whose opinions differed from his own, that tolerance and intelligent appreciation which ever distinguish a mind truly great and generous from one that is cramped within the limits of a bigoted creed. His kindliness of disposition was proverbial, and his preaching was evangelical and earnest. But he became more widely known among his countrymen as an accomplished poet and antiquary, and a friend, associate, and patron of literary men—with whom he was familiarly known as *Dewi Silin*. He was one of the adjudicators at the Carmarthen Eisteddfod in July 1819; and the following October, on the establishment of the Powys Cymreigyddion Society, he became its

Secretary. He adjudicated at the Wrexham Eisteddfod in 1820; and at most of the Eisteddfodau held during the remainder of his life, including that held at Welshpool in 1824. He was at that time, indeed, one of the most active and able promoters of this ancient institution. Llansilin during his time was frequented by bards, minstrels, and literary characters from every part of Wales, and the genial vicar's name is still mentioned with reverence and esteem. He died at Llansilin on the 4th December 1826, aged forty-three years. His four brothers also were well-known and highly respected clergymen of the Church of England, namely, the Revs. Richard Richards, of Caerwys, and subsequently Vicar of Meifod; Thomas Richards, Curate of Berriew, and Master of Berriew School, and afterwards, from 1826 until his death in 1856, Rector of Llangynyw; John Richards, Perpetual Curate of Llanwyddyn; and Lewis Richards, Rector of Llanerfyl.—(*Lleyn MSS.; Gw. Mechain's Works*, etc.)

Richards, Rev. Richard, eldest brother of the above-named Rev. David Richards, was born about the year 1781. Like all his brothers, he was brought up to the Church, and having served several curacies, he was, in 1826, promoted to the Rectory of Caerwys in Flintshire, which he held for twenty-three years. During that period he distinguished himself for his zeal and activity as a parish clergyman of the evangelical school, and his eloquence as a preacher, acquiring the reputation of being the best preacher connected with the Established Church in North Wales. In 1849 he was promoted to the Rectory of Meifod, which he held until his death in April 1860, in the 80th year of his age. He was buried at Llangynyw.

Richards, Rev. Thomas, Rector of Newtown from 1713 to 1718, and of Llanfyllin from the latter date to 1760; was an excellent classical scholar, and said by Dr. Trapp, Professor of Poetry at the University of Oxford, to have been the best Latin poet since Virgil. He is best known as the author of *Hoglandia*,

written in answer to a satirical poem, under the title *Muscipula*, written by Holdsworth in 1709,—the latter being an illiberal attack upon the Welsh. The *Cambrian Plutarch* gives the following account of the circumstances which led to the writing of *Hoglandia*. "The famous Dr. Sacheverell, who seems to have been influenced by some unaccountable antipathy against the Welsh, had prevailed upon a person of the name of Holdsworth to write a satire upon the nation, which gave birth to the well-known *Muscipula*. Upon the publication of the work, Sacheverell, with a malicious pleasure, presented a copy to Llwyd [the antiquary], saying, 'Here, Mr. Lloyd, I give you a poem of banter upon your country, which I defy all your countrymen to answer.' The Welshman, naturally irritated by this, resolved to take up the cause, and had recourse to Mr. Thomas Richards, then a student at Jesus College and afterwards Rector of Llanfyllin, to enter the lists against Holdsworth; at the same time suggesting the subject and supplying him with numerous hints for the treatment of it. Richards, in the course of about a week, produced the *Hoglandia*, the merit of which has been generally admitted. It underwent the revision and correction of Llwyd, who also wrote a caustic preface to it in elegant Latin. But as he died before it was published, the preface was suppressed on account of its severity, and the one which now accompanies it substituted. In the composition of this Mr. Richards was assisted by Mr. Anthony Alsop of Christ Church." He also wrote an *Elegy on the Death of Queen Caroline*, dedicated to Bishop Madocks, private secretary to Her Majesty, which was much admired; and many happy translations into Welsh of several popular English songs, such as *Sally in our Alley; Lovely Peggy*, etc., which were long favourites with his countrymen. Besides the above, he published two sermons – one on *Christmas Day*; the other, *A Sermon Preached at Newtown, April 28th, 1732, being the Anniversary of the Funeral of Lady Pryce, wife of Sir John Pryce of Newtown Hall, Bart.*

There is a copy of the latter in the Powysland Club Library.—(*Cambrian Plutarch; J. Morris's MSS.*, etc.)

Robert Dyvi, a poet who flourished from about 1590 to 1630. Some of his poems are preserved in manuscript.—(Williams's *Eminent Welshmen.*)

Roberts, Cadwaladr, a poet contemporary with and a friend of Huw Morus. He lived at a farm called Cwmllech-ucha, of which he was also the owner, in the parish of Pennant Melangell. He died February 12th, 1708. Two or three of his compositions are printed in *Blodeugerdd Cymru.*—(*Mont. Coll.*, xii, p. 81 ; *Brython*, iv, 309, and v, 34.)

Roberts, Maria, an accomplished harpist, was the eldest daughter of a respectable farmer near Llanfyllin, and was born about the year 1777. In infancy she was attacked by small-pox, which destroyed her eyesight, and her father having died, while she was yet young, in reduced circumstances, she was left without any provision for her maintenance. At the age of sixteen she was taught to play the harp, and soon acquired such proficiency that she was able to instruct others. She played with great skill and taste, and occasionally accompanied the instrument with her own voice, which was peculiarly sweet. Having, after some years, met with an accident which disabled a finger of her left hand, she was incapacitated from following her profession, and appears to have felt the pangs of poverty. —(*Cam. Quar. Mag.*, ii, p. 118.)

Roberts, Richard, the eminent engineer and mechanician, was a native of Llanymynech. For a full account of him see *Mont. Coll.*, xiii, p. 148.

Rogers, Rev. Hugh, Rector of Newtown, was ejected for Nonconformity in 1662. Philip Henry gives him the following character :—" Mr. Hugh Rogers, a worthy, faithful minister of Jesus Christ, turned out for Nonconformity from Newtown in Montgomeryshire, was buried at Welshpool, March 17th, 1680. He was looked upon as Congregational, but his declared judgment was—' That ministers ought to be ordained by

ministers, and to give themselves wholly to that work; and that none but ministers have authority to preach and govern in a constituted church; and that Christ's ministers are His ministers in all places; and that where the word of Christ is preached, and His Sacraments administered, there is a true Church.' He was a man of excellent converse, and whose peculiar felicity lay in pleasant and edifying discourse."—(Henry's *Misc. Works*, vol. i, p. 146; Calamy's *Noncon. Memorial* (2nd ed.), vol. iii, p. 494; Rees's *Nonconformity in Wales*, p. 163.)

HISTORY OF THE PARISH OF LLANERFYL.

By the Rev. G. EDWARDS, M.A., F.R. Hist. Soc.,
Rector of Llangadfan.

Section I.—Description of the Parish.

This parish is in the Hundred of Mathrafal, Union of Llanfyllin, and County of Montgomery, five miles W.N.W. from Llanfair Caereinion on the turnpike road from Welshpool to Machynlleth. It extends about eight miles in length by about four in breadth, and contains 16,255 acres. It lies near the centre of the county, its population, according to the census of 1871, being 835, and the census of 1881, 788; the gross estimated rental, according to the last valuation list, is £5,010 2*s.*, and the rateable value £4,471. It consists of a great extent of mountain waste, which is uncultivated and claimed as sheep walks by the farmers whose lands are contiguous. The scenery is bold and romantic, consisting of great variety of hills and dales, and the river Banwy running through the middle of it, which enters it from the neighbouring parish of Llangadfan. It derives its name from the dedication of its church to St. Erfyl or Erful, a female saint, whose history is not much known. She is commemorated on Sunday after July 6th, and is supposed to have flourished in the early part of the seventh century. It seems the parish was a place of some importance at a very early period, as it abounds with vestiges of British and Roman antiquities, and a Roman road from Caersws to Mediolanum, and thence to Deva or Chester, passed through it at one time. An annual fair is held in the village on the 7th of May, and a monthly one for stock is carried on at present on the Wednesday before the

monthly fair at Llanfair. The parish is divided into six townships, viz., Cynniwyll, Llysyn, Coed Talog, Craen, Cefn Llys Isaf, and Cefn Llys Uchaf. The names of some of these townships carry us back to the primitive state of things in the parish. *Cynniwyll* probably means the first cultivated ground, from *cyn* first or primary, and *diwyll* cultivation. It is the first portion of level or good land to be found from Caersws to this place, if we follow the old Roman road over the hills. *Llysyn* means a small court, referring probably to the Manorial or Commot Court of the district, which might have been held here. At present it is the name of the principal residence in the township, as well as of the township itself. *Coed Talog* means the high or towering wood. It was noted at one time for its large trees; for kitchen tables are still to be seen in farm houses about it, which were formed from a single tree grown there. The townships of Llysyn and Coed Talog are on the north side of the river Banwy. *Craen* means sloping, and well describes the township, for a great part of it consists of sloping headland. *Cefnllys isa*, the lower Court ridge; *Cefnllys ucha*, the upper Court ridge. These refer to the Manorial Court already mentioned. The parish had in it at the time of the commutation of the Tithes 2,000 acres of arable land, 8,826 acres of meadow and pasture, 5,000 acres of mountain pasture, 400 of woodland, and twenty-four acres of glebe. The mountain pasture consists of mountain waste and sheep walks.

Roman road.—The Roman road mentioned above is a continuation of the Roman road passing through Wales, called *Sarn Helen*. It commences at Caerleon on Usk, and comes over the hills from Brecon to Radnorshire, thence to Caersws, near which place it is called Sarn Susan; it is here about fifteen feet wide, the sides made of large stones, and the space between them made up with broken stones or gravel, and the middle of it somewhat rounded. It is traced on its way towards Llanerfyl over Mynydd y llyn mawr, and

proceeds through Tregynon and Llanwyddelan, and crosses the road from Machynlleth to Shrewsbury near an inn called Cefn Coch, in the parish of Llanllugan. Hence it enters Mynydd y Llyn hir, in the parish of Llanfair, and proceeds over the lower part of Esgair y llyn hir in the parish of Llanerfyl, hence to Bwlch y drum and Cae'r bachau in the same parish. It crosses the Banwy and enters the hill near Craig y go, and turns down to a place called Pont yr ystyllod (*Plank Bridge*) over the Vyrniew near Plas Dolanog, thence on in the parish of Llanfihangel as far as Dolwar. It could not be traced any further than this in the year 1760, and it is more difficult to follow it now than it was at that time, as the land has been cultivated in many places where it was then in its primitive state. Like all the Roman roads, this is carried on in a straight line, as far as the nature of the country would permit; but on account of hills and precipices there was often a necessity of turning from the direct course followed. It is more easily discovered on the hills, and the large stones on the sides appear in many places above ground. The side gutters are mostly filled up and not easily discovered, on account of the ground having grown over them, the soil being generally mossy. By thrusting down a stick, the hard bed is generally felt about a foot below the surface. In the land that is enclosed, there is seldom any trace of it at all, and the farmers say they find nothing in ploughing; but they do not plough deep enough to come to the hard pavement; and in ploughing, the ditches have been filled up, and every trace of the road obliterated.

It is much to be regretted that this road could not have been traced further, as in its progress towards *Deva* it would have intersected the road from *Rutunium* to *Heriri Mons*, where in all probability stood the now unknown *Mediolanum*, and its situation be thus discovered.[1]

A coin was found some years ago near a farm-house

[1] Walter Davies's *Works*, vol. iii, pp. 82-85.

called the *Drum* on this road, and is now in possession of Mr. T. Williams, Bryn Tanat, Llanerfyl. It belonged to Miss Richards, late of the same place, a lady very well known for her zeal and encouragement to Welsh literature and attachment to all antiquarian remains. The coin is a small silver one, but all inscription upon it is obliterated.

Drainage.—The principal river in this parish is the Banwy, which receives in its course several tributaries from different parts of it, amongst others the Einion, which runs from Llyn Hir, and Llyn y Grinwydden, on Mynydd y Drum, and enters the parish of Llanfair before it joins the Banwy, near a farm house called Glan Banwy. This river takes its name from Einion Yrth, tenth son of Cunedda Wledig, King of Cumbria, who inherited from his mother extensive possessions in Wales. Einion had a castle in the parish of Llanfair, on the summit of a hill above Rhiw Hiraeth, not far from this river. From him the name of Caereinion was added to that of Llanfair. Another important tributary to the Banwy is the Nant yr Eira river, rising on the borders of Llanbrynmair, and dividing Llanerfyl from Llangadfan parish. This river is called *Evernoe* in the Charter of Gwenwynwyn, Prince of Powys, where he gives certain portions of mountain land to God, to the Blessed Virgin, and the Monks of Strata Marcella Abbey, adjoining this river, in the year 1201. We have already given some account of the Banwy, and the Efernwy or Verniew, in the "History of the Parishes of Llangadfan and Garthbeibio."[1] The Verniew, or more correctly Efernwy, begins its course in two streams, the one commencing at Bwlch y Fedwen on the confines of Merionethshire, and the other near Llanwyddyn, upon which the important water-works belonging to the Corporation of Liverpool are now carried on. These two streams unite near Mathrafal in the Vale of Meifod. One is called Banwy, and the other Mechain, before they unite, but afterwards they are called Verniew. This name is applied to both branches, for the Banwy and Mechain

[1] Vide *Mont. Coll.*, vol. ii, p. 317; and vol. vi, p. 1.

are both called Verniew in itineraries and sketches as well as in bequests, but not in the language of the people who live on their banks. Drayton, in his *Polyolbion*, canto vi, calls it "forkt Vurnwy", which is very appropriate when applied to the two powerful streams with which the river is fed, the Banwy and the Mechain, which rise from two separate points of the ridge of a large district of the country, extending from Pumlumon on the south, to Aran Fowddwy on the north. The Rev. Walter Davies is inclined to the opinion that the origin of the name Fernwy is *Maranwy*, meaning the "salmon river",—from *maran*, salmon, and *wy*, water. He corroborates this opinion by stating that Dr. Powell, who was Vicar of Meifod in 1579, in his *Annotations on the Itinerary of Giraldus Cambrensis*, calls it "Marnovia". Mr. Pennant says that the river contains as many as twenty species of fish in it, from the salmon to the miller's thumb.[1]

Pools.—There are three pools on Mynydd y Drum in this parish, not far from each other, and a fourth on the borders of Llanbrynmair, partly situated in that parish, and partly in this. The pools on Mynydd y Drum are, first, Llyn y Grinwydden (*the pool of the withered tree*), or according to others, Llyn y Garneddwen (*the pool of the white cairn*), referring to a cairn on the hill near to it. It is situated under the highest point of the mountain, surrounded by a rocky bed, and supposed to be of unfathomable depth. It is about a quarter of a mile in circumference, and contains eels and carp, the latter of a very large size. These were brought into the pool many years ago, and if there were any other fish in it at the time besides eels, they must have destroyed them, but eels thrive well and attain to a large size.

The next pool is Llyn Hir (*the long pool*), which is about a quarter of a mile long, and about 150 yards broad. The upper part of it is crusted over so thickly by the soil carried down by the floods from the turbaries above it, that sheep, and even men, can at times walk upon it. But

[1] Rev. Walter Davies's *Works*, vol. iii, p. 108.

at the other end it gains by the action of the waves, forcibly driven by the wind against the peat soil of the banks, which are thus worn out and carried away. In dry seasons, on the north side of it, is to be seen a flat stone, on which is the inscription "M.E.T.II 1430." This stone lies about seven feet from the bank, from which it appears that the water has encroached that much since it was placed there 452 years ago. The trout in this pool are very good, but not in great abundance; and it is difficult to get to it without a boat, except at the lower end, owing to the softness of the ground about the banks.

The third pool is Llyn y Bugail (*the shepherd's pool*). This contains some good fishing, the trout being of a fair size, and more numerous than in Llyn Hir. This is about the size of Llyn y Grinwydden, and is surrounded by a turbary.

The fourth pool is Llyn Gwyddior, or the pool of the grove sacred to the Deity, meaning the oak trees. Davies, in his *Mythology of the Druids*, translates the name "the lake of the Grove of Ior", or God, and says that some religious ideas were anciently connected with these lakes. And that this kind of superstition was prevalent among the ancient Druids may be inferred from the testimony of Gildas, who informs us that they worshipped mountains and rivers.[1] This pool has a gravelly bottom, and the water is very clear, and at one time it contained a great number of trout, but a gamekeeper of Sir Watkin Williams Wynn, according to the statement of Mr. W. Jones in the *Cambrian Register* for 1796, out of spite to the neighbouring fishermen, introduced a colony of pike among them, which voracious new comers destroyed most of the former peaceful inhabitants.[2] This pool is about a mile in circumference, and is situated in a wild mountain district, without any houses near it. It is the property of Sir Watkin Williams Wynn; and there is a boat on it for the accommodation of anglers.

[1] Davies's *Mythology and Rites of the Druids*, p. 143.
[2] *Cambrian Register* for 1796, p. 370.

Not very far from this pool, in the township of Cefn llys ucha, there are to be seen the traces of small ditches or channels in the ground, said to have been made to convey the water of Afon Gam, in consequence of a dispute between Lord Herbert of Llysyn and Mr. Pugh of Mathafarn, in the parish of Llanwrin, respecting the course of the above water, about which they could not agree. Afon Gam is joined by the river from Llyn Gwyddior at a place called Aber Cannon, and runs down from hence as a boundary to the parish of Llanerfyl, and enters the Banwy near Llangadfan Church, known for the greatest part of its course under the name of Nant yr Eira river.

Wells.—At a short distance from the church is the well of St. Erfyl, dedicated to the patron saint of that church; and its water was formerly in great repute for its efficacy in the cure of various diseases. Parents used to fetch the water to the church at one time for the baptism of their children. And it was an ancient custom for the young people of the district to meet in the afternoon of Wake Sunday at this well, and at another on Moel Bentyrch, to drink the water sweetened with sugar, and afterwards they adjourned to some convenient place near to have a dance.

Pistill y Cefn Bedwog *(the spout of the birch ridge)*, is another spring on Mynydd y Drum, the water of which was at one time in great repute in cases of rheumatism, king's-evil, and other diseases. It was resorted to by crowds of people on Trinity Sunday, for the purpose of drinking the water sweetened with sugar, as in the former case.

Roads.—The turnpike roads in Wales are generally very good, but the township roads are often very bad; but they are much improved of late years in many parishes, since the adoption of the new Highway Act forming Unions for the purpose of keeping the parish roads in repair. Railways have given great impetus to the improvement of many roads in out-of-the-way localities, but the parish of Llanerfyl, and the sur-

rounding ones, have not yet participated in the advantages which these afford, though the Cambrian line is only a short distance from some parts of these parishes. A railway was projected from Welshpool to Llanfair a short time ago, and also from Llansantffraid to the same town. Such a line would materially benefit these parts, and no doubt the time will come, sooner or later, when such a project will be carried out, and a line ultimately made through the Valley of the Banwy, and proceed to join the branch line at Dinas y Mawddwy. At present the intended line to Llanfair has been abandoned by the parties who took up the scheme. The upper parts of the parish of Llanerfyl, which are nearest to the Cambrian Railway, stand much in need of good roads, and a gentleman from Liverpool, Dr. James Turnbull, who some time ago owned some property in that part, interested himself to get such a road made from the village of Llanerfyl to meet the Cambrian line at Talerddig, near Llanbrynmair. This gentleman says that owing to the want of a good road, the agricultural condition of Nant yr Eira Valley is very backward, and that much land in that district might be reclaimed by fencing and draining, and the application of lime and other manures. But the wretched condition of the roads prevents all improvements, though the quality of the soil is such as would well repay any judicious outlay. The village of Llanerfyl is about ten miles in a direct line from Llanbrynmair, and nine from Talerddig, which is the nearest and most accessible point to it on the Cambrian Railway. The township road for three or four miles is tolerably good, having been made as far as Sychtyn by the Enclosure Commissioners, when the common lands were enclosed in the year 1819. But this road, after passing Sychtyn, becomes a mere track, though it should have been carried on as far as Sychnant, about three miles further, to the boundary of the Manor of Caereinion Uwchgoed and Talerddig. But as there was no railway at that time, and, therefore, less need

for the extension of the road in that direction, the Commissioners did not exercise their full power under the Act for the enclosure of the commons in Caereinion Uwchgoed, and carry the road to the boundary of the manor. This is much to be regretted, as Sychnant, which is the boundary of the manor, is little more than three miles from Talerddig ; and if this road had been carried out as it ought to have been, and had been supplemented by a road of about three miles more to Talerddig, the upper part of the valley of the Banwy would have been supplied with railway communication, and the higher and most neglected district of the parish would have derived the most substantial advantage.

Lately, a project was set on foot to carry a tramway from the village of Llanerfyl to Carno station on the Cambrian Railway, but it met with no great encouragement, and is now, probably, abandoned, as not likely to pay the expenses of working it, to say nothing of the cost of making it.

A farmer, who lived at Nant yr Eira sometime ago, gave a description of the difficulties of getting from one place to another in that part of the country, in a letter written in Welsh, addressed to the late rector the Rev. J. McIntosh. "It is almost impossible", he says, "to travel from Llanerfyl to Llanbrynmair in any kind of wheeled conveyance, and this has been the case, with scarcely any change for the better, for many ages. See, then, the disadvantage under which the farmers in these parts labour in procuring lime and manure for their farms and tenements. They must needs cross the river (Afon Gam), and other streams, above a dozen times—eight times within the distance of no more than a quarter of a mile—or travel along the bed of the river. There is no other way of getting through the district, except by permission of those who hold land on the banks of the river, to be allowed to go and cross their fields. Now, there is a railway that passes through Llanbrynmair, and a station on it by the

Wynnstay Arms Hotel, and plenty of lime and coal to be had there always, but these cannot be conveyed from there to Nant yr Eira for want of a road. The tenants of Nant yr Eira, and those lower down, are compelled to go to Welshpool and Porth y Waen for coal and lime, though these lie almost close to them if there were a road along which to bring them." .

Old Mansions.—The two most important old mansions in the parish are Neuadd Wen and Llysyn. Neuadd Wen is the most ancient residence in this part of the country, though at present only a farm house of no great pretensions. At one time it was the residence of Meredydd ap Cynan, brother of Gruffydd ap Cynan, prince of North Wales. He served the Princes of Powys, and was called the Lord of Rhiwhiraeth, Coed Talog, and Neuadd Wen. It appears that Neuadd Wen was at one time called Llys Wgan, or probably Llys Cadwgan, who was son of Bleddyn ap Cynfyn, Prince of Powys, and probably resided there. A brook running near, and dividing the township of Coed Talog from that of Llysyn, is called Nant Gwgan. The old mansion stood a little below the present farm-house, at a place called Siamber ddu, and its site is visible to this day. Among some rubbish near the present farm house, certain remains of the old mansion were found, such as pieces of freestone with mouldings, probably the ruins of an arched window. From these it would appear that the building was Gothic, and the style of the 11th or 12th century. On the side of the hill to the north, there is a place called Tanglwst, from the name of a daughter of one of the princes of Neuadd Wen, who, according to tradition, had a summer-house there. Later on, a man of the name of Oliver Thomas resided at Neuadd Wen, who was father to Robert ap Oliver of Cynhinfa, in the parish of Llangynyw, who built Pont Robert ap Oliver in that locality, which is known to this day by that name.

The estate of Neuadd Wen was divided and subdivided, according to the custom of gavel-kind, until

the time of one Evan ap Owen, the last of the male line of Meredydd ap Cynan, whose two daughters and co-heiresses married, the one to the Llwydiarth family, and the other to that of Newtown Hall. This estate, and other lands in the neighbourhood, were purchased by the Herberts, and became the residence of some branches of that family, and at present the property belongs to the Earl of Powis.

Llyssyn, the other old Mansion, is near Neuadd wen, and was at one time the residence of Lord Herbert of Chirbury, son of Richard Lord Herbert of Montgomery. The name of the place, according to Dr. John Davies, and Richards, is derived from *Llysdin*, meaning a hall or court. But it appears more likely to be a diminutive of *Llys*, a hall or court, where the judges of the commot or district used to sit. It is clear that it was at one time a place of importance, as part of the surrounding land still bears the name of the Park, and near it is a place called the Lodge, the playing hillocks, and there are traces of old fortifications on the ground; and a short time ago pieces of stained glass were found in the ground near the House. Some letters dated at Llyssyn, from Lady Herbert to her husband, and from Lord Herbert to his great-uncle, Sir Henry Herbert, appeared in Herbertiana (*Mont. Collections*, vol. vii, pp. 140, 141). In the *Autobiography* of Richard Davies of Welshpool, the Quaker, we find the following allusion to Lord Herbert of Llyssyn: "My friend Thomas Lloyd and I were moved to go and visit most of the justices that had a hand in committing friends to prison. We began at the furthest Justice towards Machynlleth, and came down to Edward Lord Herbert, Baron of Chirbury, at Llyssyn aforesaid, who had committed Charles Lloyd and several other friends. We understood on the way that he was at a bowling green, and several with him, near a place called Cann Office, near the highway side, not far from Llyssyn, where we beheld them bowling. We considered with each other which way to take,

there being a peevish priest, the said lord's chaplain with them; so I asked Thomas Lloyd whether he would engage the priest in discourse, or go to the said lord, which he chose. I got into the green leisurely towards him, where most of them knew Thomas, but he went not in their complimenting posture. He staid there but a little while, and they broke up their game, and while he discoursed with the Lord Herbert, I discoursed a little with the priest. Lord Herbert coming towards the priest and me, said to the priest: 'Mr. Jones, what have you got there?' He answered: 'A quaker and haberdasher of hats from Welshpool.' 'Oh,' said Lord Herbert, 'I thought he was such a one; he keeps his hat so fast upon the block.' Then he intending and preparing to come down a great steep ditch, I stepped down to lend him my hand to help him; another priest would have stepped between me and him, but Lord Herbert refused the priest's help, and stepping a little said to the priest: 'Here is a brother that stands by who will say, "The blind leads the blind, and both will fall into the ditch."' The priest was so drunk that he could not stand by himself. This lord being a very big, fat man, took my help to come down, so we went along with him towards his own house at Llyssyn, laying the sufferings of our friends before him, and that their sufferings were for their consciences' sake towards God."[1]

In the fifteenth century, before the Herberts purchased the property of Neuadd wen and Llyssyn, Llyssyn was the property of Ieuan ab Bedo Gwyn, descendant of a younger branch of the family of Neuadd wen, whose name is found in the list of Bards of that period. The Reverend Joseph Thomas, who married a daughter of Parkhurst, author of the *Greek and English Lexicon to the New Testament*,

[1] "Account of the Services and Travels of Richard Davies, the Quaker, of Welshpool."—*Mont. Coll.*, vol. vii, pp. 144-5.

was born here; and he, it is said, assisted his father-in-law in his literary labours.

Geology.—The principal rocks in these parts consist of the Wenlock Shale, which is a branch of the Upper Silurian; and Mr. W. Boyd Dawkins is of opinion that the old red sandstone at one time covered the Silurian rocks of Montgomeryshire to a considerable depth, and was washed away by the waves of the sea and the grinding of glaciers, at a remote epoch after its deposit.[1]

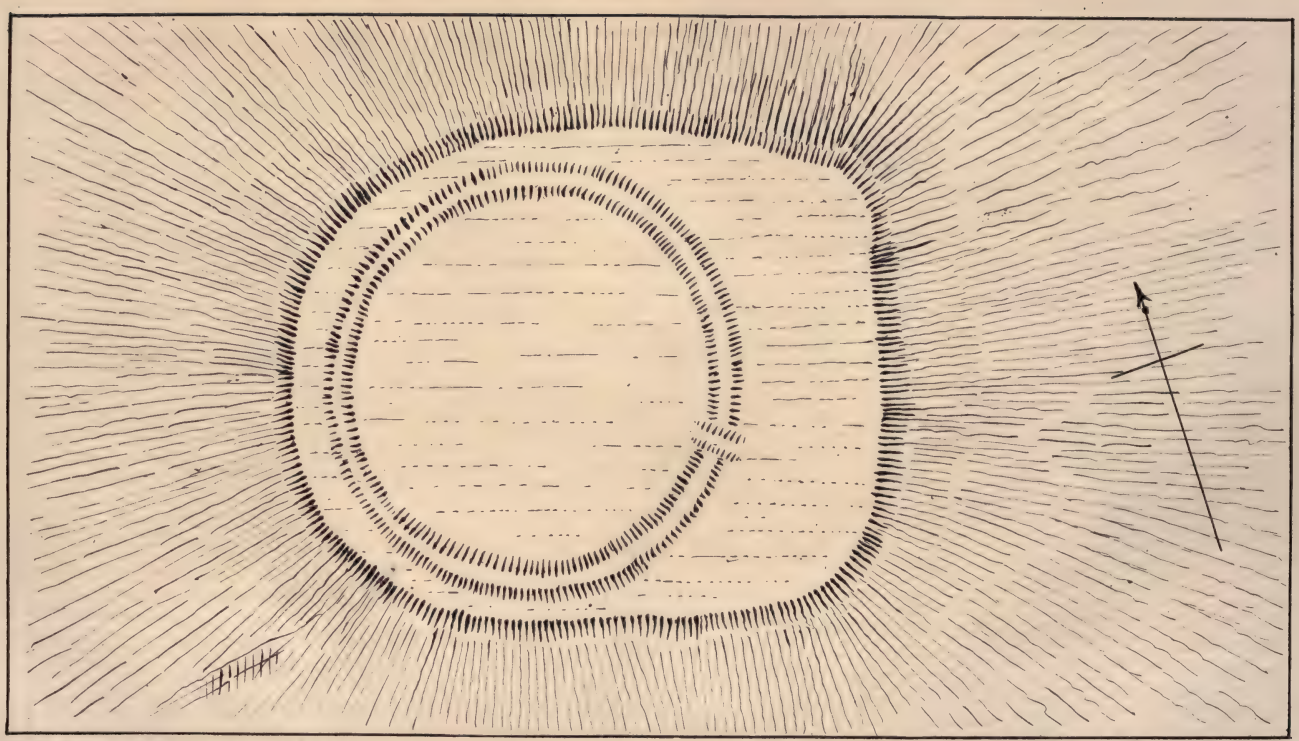
A search for coal was made under Moel Bentyrch, in the lower part of this parish, in the year 1797, and renewed a few years ago. A pit of forty or fifty yards in depth was sunk, but, as might have been expected, without any success. The Silurian rocks in this country contain no coal, and we were informed that the eminent geologist, Professor Sedgwick, who visited the place some time after the first trial, said that coal would have been two miles up in the air; he being probably of the same opinion as Professor Boyd Dawkins, that the old red sandstone, which might have contained coal, had been washed away at some remote period. The only mineral found in the parish consisted of a few specimens of copper ore, which were found in the township of Coed Talog, on the land which belonged at one time to Robert Lloyd, Esq., of Oswestry. On the common of Craig y go, not far from the above place, there are traces of mining which are supposed to belong to the Romans; and a cave or level, facing the side of Llanfihangel, near the Dolanog river, called Ogof Dolanog, is supposed to have been driven by the Romans in search of minerals. The entrance to it is so narrow that a man cannot go far into it, and according to tradition it formed a kind of secret passage under the mountain to Neuadd wen. The best building stones in the parish are in a quarry on the mountain near Cae'r Bachau. These are of blue colour; but their grain not being sufficiently close, like most of the

[1] "Notes on the Geology of Powys-land."—*Mont. Coll.*, vol. iii, p. 433.

blue stone of the district, they do not keep out the damp well.

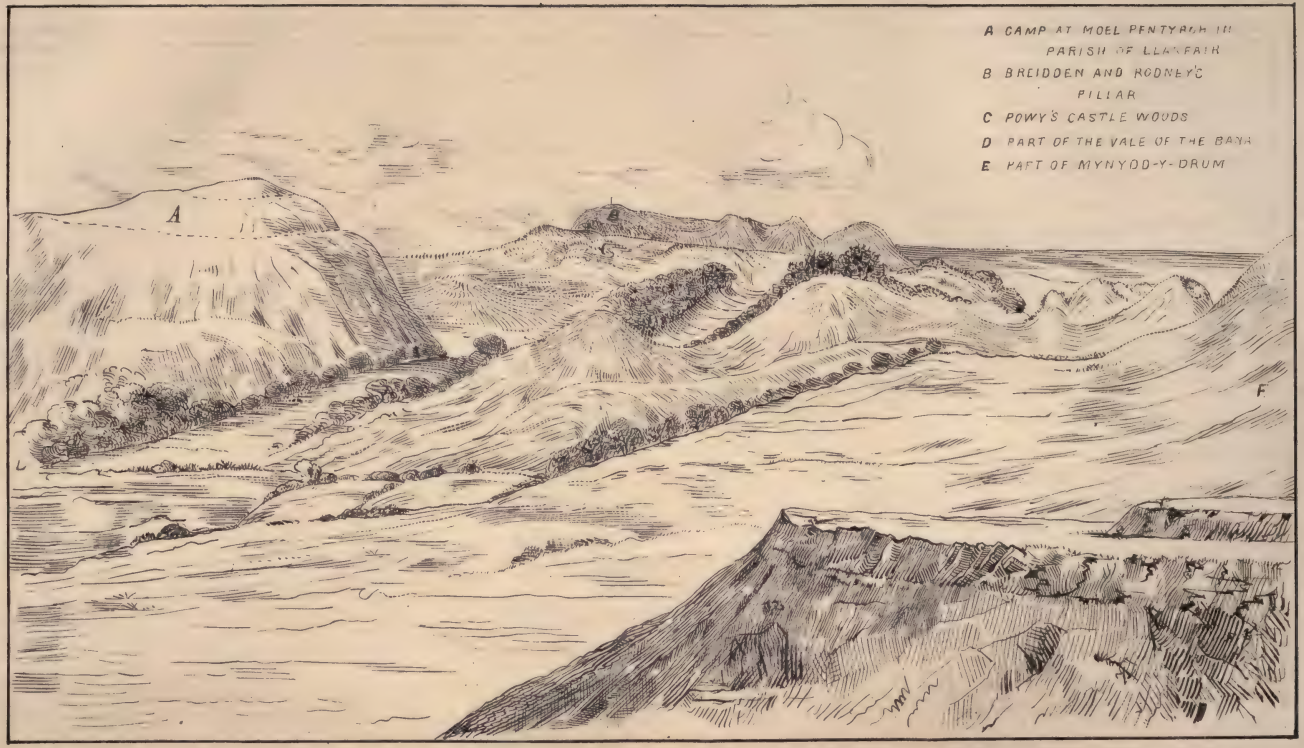
The following is a list of the principal farms in the parish, giving their acreage and rateable value :—

Owners.	Names of Farms.	Acreage (irrespective of sheep walk).	Rateable value.
Earl of Powis.	Llyssyn	564 0 0	382 10 0
	Coed Talog	383 0 0	154 15 0
	Neuadd wen	252 0 0	113 15 0
	Tan y Foel	61 0 0	21 15 0
	Ty Newydd	74 0 0	35 5 0
Sir Watkin Williams Wynn, Bart.	Moel Ddolwen	530 0 0	99 5 0
	Dolwen	686 0 0	98 0 0
	Cannon	1272 0 0	132 10 0
	Hafod y bendy	800 0 0	140 0 0
	Sychtyn	600 0 0	152 10 0
	Dolau	150 0 0	35 0 0
	Nant yr Eira	590 0 0	44 0 0
	Dolfrwynog	200 0 0	38 15 0
	Cwm Derwen	1387 0 0	77 10 0
	Dol y gareg wen	99 0 0	21 10 0
Rev. W. Coke.	Lawnt	190 0 0	53 15 0
	Tanglwst	127 0 0	48 0 0
	Maes Celynog	113 0 0	62 0 0
	Pen y Foel	51 0 0	23 15 0
Rev. J. B. M. Williams.	Drum	130 0 0	57 0 0
	Buarth bachog	68 0 0	37 10 0
H. W. Kyffin, Esq.	Bryn Tanat	27 0 0	36 5 0
	Hen Dy	61 0 0	54 0 0
	Crane	45 0 0	28 15 0
	Aber Castell	8 0 0	3 0 0
A. Chamberlain, Esq.	Cae Stwbwrn	143 0 0	62 15 0
	Rhos gymmorog	167 0 0	44 10 0
	Pen y Cringoed	150 0 0	48 5 0
Mrs. Beck.	Careg y big	311 0 0	38 15 0
	Bon y maen	46 0 0	12 5 0
	Cors y dyfwch	3 0 0	1 0 0
E. Roden, Esq.	Rhyd y Gro	60 0 0	51 10 0
John Jones, Esq.	Cynniwyll	127 0 0	39 0 0
	Ty gwyn	142 0 0	70 0 0
	Ty newydd	156 0 0	46 15 0



T.W.H. MONT COLL. VOL XVI, BETWEEN PP 84 & 85.

GARDDEN CAMP *LLANERFYL.*



T. W. H.

VIEW FROM GARDDEN CAMP. *LLANERFYL*

Owners.	Names of Farms.	Acreage (irrespective of sheep walk).	Rateable Value.
W. H. GARDNER, Esq.	Gorphwysfa	18 0 0	45 5 0
	Cross Foxes	17 0 0	29 0 0
Mrs. LOWE.	Pant y gelynen	107 0 0	54 0 0
Mr. JOHN VAUGHAN.	Ty mawr	102 0 0	45 0 0
Mr. T. EVANS.	Maes gwyn	12 0 0	9 0 0
Mr. W. JONES.	Rhos gallt	57 0 0	31 10 0
S. DEWHURST, Esq.	Cae'r bachau	101 0 0	31 10 0
	Disgwylfa	53 2 0	7 0 0
Rev. W. HERBERT.	Gyfylchan	90 0 0	47 0 0

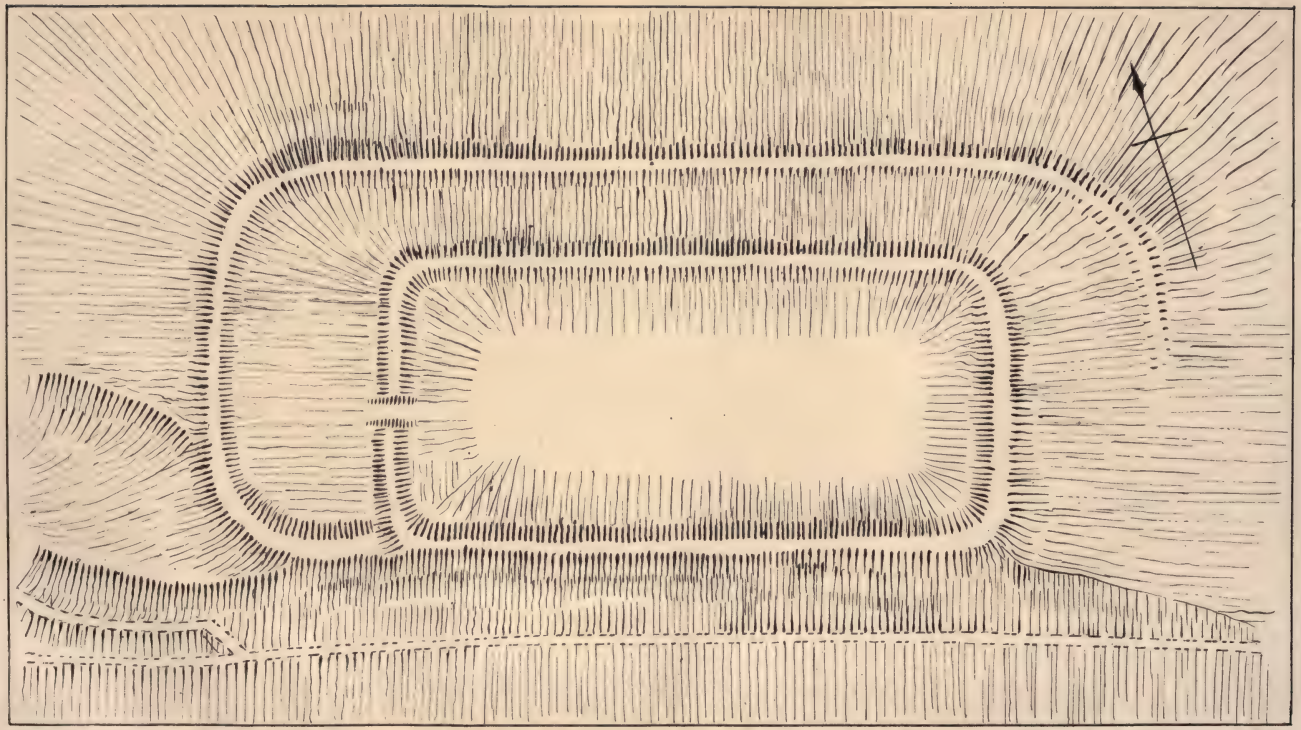
SECTION II.—ARCHÆOLOGY.

Gardden.—On the brow of a hill to the south-west of Llanerfyl village are the remains of an old encampment called Gardden, of which we give an illustration. We also give a sketch of the view from this camp. The name is derived from *Garth*, a brow or an eminence, and *Din* a fort; or from *Caer* and *Din*, a defence fort. It is a circular rampart, enclosing an area of about seventy yards in diameter. It was at one time walled on the outside with stone, and inside was filled up with earth. From its form and construction, and its position on the most accessible part of the hill, it is supposed that it was erected by the ancient Britons as a place of defence against the Romans, whose road, already noticed, passed near it. The Celtic nations, as it is stated, were accustomed to defend themselves behind ramparts having their entrance on the most accessible side of the hill, that they might more easily drive in and out their war chariots when required. About twenty yards from this, covering the entrance to it, are traces of another wall, which probably defended the entrance. Being situated on a prominence of the mountain, it commands

a very extensive outlook; the valley of the Banwy and its inlets are visible from it for a long distance, as also are different camps on the heights in other parishes; the view extending across the country to the Breidden hills on the one hand, and to Cader Ferwyn, on the Berwyn hills, on the other.

The boundary walls of several contiguous farms were built from the stones which at one time formed the old Gardden. Not far from this old encampment there is a place called Disgwylfa, meaning the place of expectation or waiting, where an advanced guard would probably be posted to watch the advance of the enemy, and give warning to those who defended the camp.

Bwlch y Gistfaen.—On the western extremity of this hill there is a pass called Bwlch y Gistfaen, "the Pass of the Stone Chest." The *Cistfeini*, or Stone Chests, are relics of the Druidic period, and are numerous in some parts of Wales. They consist generally of six large stones formed like a chest. The one in this pass, which gives it its name, is situated at the bottom of the dingle, close to the brook that runs through the pass from Llyn Hir. They are often found in barrows, and under cromlechau, and often contain ashes and bones, proving that they were used for the purpose of burial. Some of them are of large size. Those found in Druidic circles, and in the vicinity of a cromlech, answered two purposes, to secure the victim which was to be sacrificed, and to receive the remnants of the sacrifice, consisting of hair, bones, and ashes. The victim which was to be sacrificed was placed there to await the day of execution. When the day was fixed, it was made known in the district generally, and great numbers assembled, when the criminal, if guilty of some great offence or being prisoner of war, was taken out and sacrificed on the altar by the officiating Druid. At times, by the chance of war or by forgetfulness, the victim was suffered to expire in the cistfaen; for sometimes a skeleton is found in a sitting attitude,



T.W.H. MONT. COLL. VOL. XVI. TO FACE P. 87.

CAMP AT MOELDDOLWEN. *LLANERFYL.*

being the position in which the wretched being breathed his last.[1]

Fron Ddissog.—Not far from the cistfaen, on the side of a hill called Fron Ddissog, there are three huge stones, two of them lying close together, and the third at a short distance from them. The tradition is that a giant and giantess tried their strength by throwing these stones to the hill opposite, and that the lady proved herself superior to her opponent. Other places, in other parts of the country, lay claim to similar traditions. The large stones may have been portions of a cromlech, which was used as an altar at some remote period.

Moel Ddolwen.—On the top of a hill called Moel Ddolwen, in the township of Cefn llys ucha, are the remains of a camp, of which we give an illustration. The camp is of an oblong form, about a hundred yards long, defended on the western side, which contains the entrance, by an outer defence about twenty yards in diameter. The camp is defended on the most accessible side by deep ditches, and earthen wall thrown up to serve as a breastwork. This is evidently a British camp and not a Roman one, and was intended to serve as a retreat for a large number of people, with their cattle and effects, as well as a convenient place for aggressive raids on an enemy. It occupies the crown of the hill which gives it its name, and which is a lower elevation or sub-height of the mountain that runs to the parish of Llangadfan, and is called there Pen Cad Cymru. The camp commands an extensive view up the valley towards Nant yr Eira, and down towards Llanerfyl and Llanfair.

Llyssyn.—There is a tumulus, or a mound, near Llyssyn similar to the one near Cann Office, which has been already described in the *Montgomeryshire Collections.*[2] These were probably sepulchral monuments raised over some persons of eminence, and they

[1] Dr. Jones's *History of Wales*, p. 195.
[2] Vol. ii, p. 317.

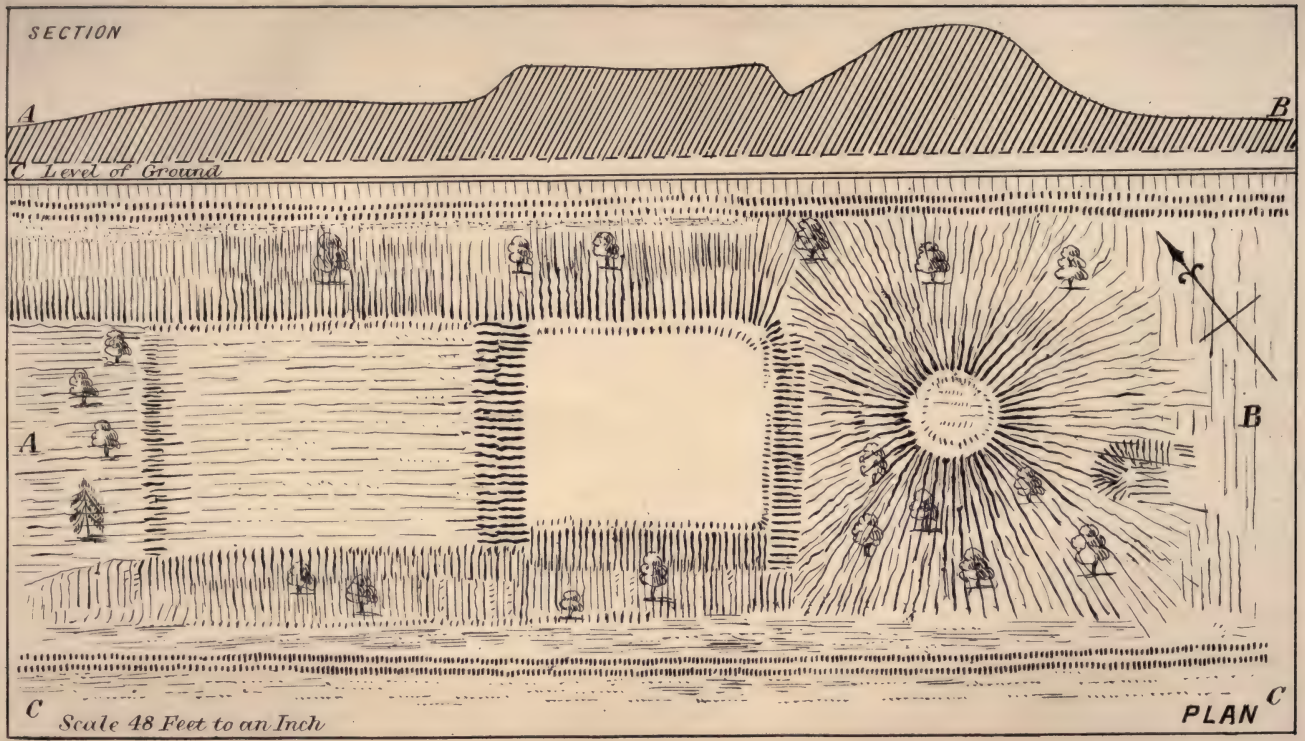
are considered the oldest monuments of the kind of any in this country. It is supposed that most of them belonged to the Stone period, for instruments of stone were found chiefly in those that were examined; and stone chests of rude construction, or a chamber of rude form, seems to mark out the place of the dead under them. Mr. Owen Williams, in his account of Llanfair Caereinion, says that instruments of bronze were found in the tumulus near Cann Office and those in the neighbourhood, but he does not state where he had his information.[1] The mound near Llyssyn (of which we give an illustration) is not wholly artificial, but a natural bank has facilitated the construction of it. It partakes of the character of the moated mounds of the Upper Severn, which have been described in a late volume of the *Montgomeryshire Collections*,[2] and which seem from what is stated there to have been raised in order to construct a strong place, either as a private dwelling or a military post. This was placed upon the summit of a mound and surrounded with defences of earthworks.[3] The purpose for which these mounds were erected may not be satisfactorily known, though they are generally considered as sepulchral monuments, and no doubt some of them were so, as it is proved by the remains found in them.

Below Plas yn Nghraen, at a distance of about a hundred yards from the house, there is a well by the roadside where some letters are said to have been cut in the rock, but are now under water.

On Moel Bentyrch, a conspicuous hill in the parish, lying between it and Llanfair Caereinion, there is a fortification in two lines running parallel from south to west, then turning in a semicircular form to the highest point of the hill.

Ancient Inscribed Stone.—There is an ancient stone in the churchyard at Llanerfyl, under the shadow of an old yew-tree of great age and patriarchal appear-

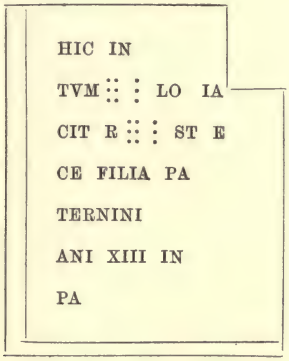
[1] Geirlyfr Cymraeg under Llanfair Caereinion.
[2] *Montgomeryshire Collections*, vol. ix, p. 329.
[3] *Ibid.*, vol. x, p. 334.



T.W.H. MONT. COLL. VOL. XVI, TO FACE P. 88

EARTHWORK AT ILYSSIN. *LLANERFYL.*

ance, with a Latin inscription upon it, and supposed to be a monument to St. Erfyl. It is first mentioned by Mr. Lewis Morris, in a letter to Mr. Vaughan of Nannau, dated February 12th, 1742. Here is what he says on the subject: "At a place in Montgomeryshire called Llaneurfal, in the churchyard, there is a stone erected of about four feet above ground, with this inscription upon it:—



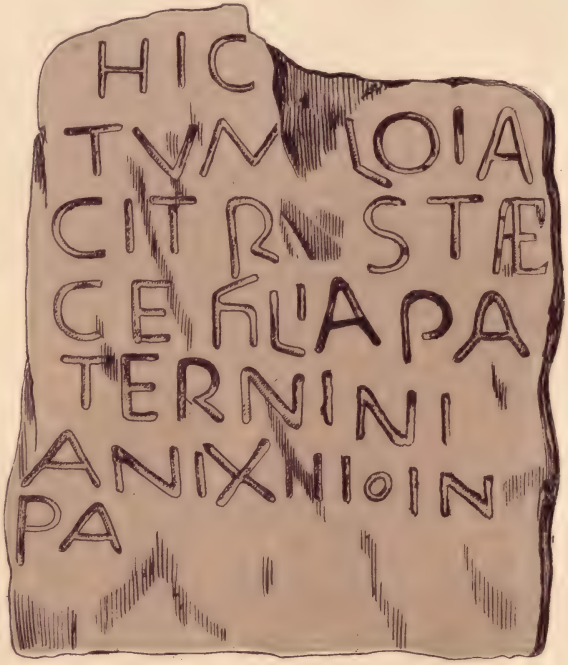
I do not remember I ever read of *Paterninus* among the Britons, but *Paternus* was a noted man, a native of Mauritania, that erected a bishop's see in Cardiganshire between A.D. 516 and 540."[1] It will be seen that Mr. Lewis Morris's reading of this inscription varies very slightly from the modern readings of it.

The bishopric of Llanbadarn Fawr, it is said, included part of Montgomeryshire, and according to tradition Erfyl was a daughter of Padarn, who founded the see. We find nothing contrary to that tradition in the inscription on the old stone, where it is said that she was daughter of *Paterninus*, for the termination of the word might have been extended, as is often the case in many Latin inscriptions. There is a place called *Sarn Badarn* in the township of Craen in this parish, which shows that there was some connection between the saint and this locality. Like many of the early bishops of the Church, St. Padarn went about from place to place, much in the same way as many

[1] *Cambrian Register*, vol. ii, p. 497.

of our Colonial bishops do at the present day, and it is highly probable that this part of Montgomeryshire formed a portion of his diocese. Mr. Lewis Morris is in error in saying that he was a native of Mauritania; for the place where he built a church and a monastery in Wales, was called Mauritania or rather Maritania, being near the sea-coast where Aberystwyth is now. The church he erected here was raised to the dignity of an episcopal see, over which St. Padarn presided for one and twenty years, and it was called after him Llanbadarn fawr. He himself was a native of Armorica, or Lesser Britain, and returned there, before his death, at the invitation of Prince Caradog, and was made Bishop of Vannes, where he ended his life.

Mr. John Rhys, M.A., Professor of Celtic at Oxford, was consulted respecting the inscription on this old stone, as he had visited it and took a rubbing of it some time ago, and in his answer he says: "My reading of the old stone at Llanerfyl was the following: *Hic* [*in*] *Tumulo jacit Rustice Filia Paternini* ANI XIII *In P* [*ace*]. The *in* is gone, and so is the *u*, but I have little doubt that the name was *Rustice* or *Rostece*, that is, some sort of a popular form of the Roman name *Rustica*. Then as to ANI XIII, I should prefer to think that I am in error, and that the right reading is AN LXIII; perhaps if you examine the stone you could decide. I forget whether P is an intentional abbreviation; it is my impression that it is, and not curtailed by an accident to that part of the stone. You see the stone says nothing of Erfyl, unless we assume that she had a common name and a religious name, which is quite possible I should think—it is very common among Roman Catholics even now. The *Paternini* is the genitive of *Paterninus*, whereas the church is dedicated to a daughter of *Padarn*, which should be in Latin *Paternus*; they are different names no doubt, but still I should take them to be two names of one and the same man. Here is an exact parallel—



LLANERFYL INSCRIBED STONE.

at Llansadwrn in Anglesey, there is an ancient inscription running thus : *Hic Beatu[s] Saturninus Se[pultus] [J]cit Et Sua Sa[ncta] Conjux P[a-x]*. The name of the church implies *Saturnus*, but on his tombstone he is *Saturninus*. The inscription might certainly be of the fifth or the sixth century."

In addition to the above, respecting this interesting old stone, we here subjoin the following from *Lapidarium Walliae*, or *The Early Inscribed and Sculptured Stones of Wales*, delineated and described, by J. O. Westwood, 1876-1879, page 153, whose illustration we reproduce.

THE LLANERFYL STONE.

Plate lxxii, fig. 4.

"In the *Gentleman's Magazine* for 1791, p. 13, plate iii, fig. 3, is given an account and figure by Mr. Lewis Morris of an inscribed stone standing in the churchyard of Llanerfyl or Llanervil, between Llanfair and Garthbeibio, of which a rubbing has been forwarded to me by the Rev. D. R. Thomas of Meifod, one of the Secretaries of the Cambrian Archæological Association. The stone is 26 inches high by 20 inches broad, and 8 inches thick. It is much slit and broken, especially at the top, the inscription occupying 21 inches by 10, being Roman capital letters.

HIC (IN ?)
TVMVLO IA
CIT R (?)STÆ
CE FILIA PA
TERNINI
ANIXIIIºIN
PA[CE].

"Cracks in the surface of the stone render it difficult to assert that the second letter of the name in the third line is an A,[1] and whether the marks after the X in the sixth line are three numerals,—I's.[2] There is not however the slightest

[1] It is certainly not an E as read by Hûbner.

[2] The Rev. D. R. Thomas proposes to read VI after X (*i. e.* An. IX VI (XIT) according to the ordinary sepulchral formula ; but it appears to me that the stroke which he considers to be the first slanting stroke of the V is only a crack in the stone, extending from the middle stroke of the first N in the fifth line to below the sixth line.

ground for reading the letter before the X as a L, as has been suggested by Hûbner (*Inscriptiones*, p. 43, No. 125).

"The name of the female commemorated on the stone has been hitherto read R[E]STECE; and Professor Rhys (who calls the Latinity of the latter part of the inscription a puzzle) adds that 'Restece stands of course for Restecæ, meaning the body of Resteca or (as I suspect the nominative should be) Restica, which seems to be a derivation from the feminine Rest (*Myv. Arch.*, 484), the Britons having had nearly allied names, such as the masculine Restoi and Restue' (see the Cartulaire de 'Redon'), *Arch. Camb.*, 1874, p. 335.

"It is clear, however, from several rubbings before me, that the E at the end of the third line is preceded by a straight upright stroke near the first stroke of the E, which seems intended for a dipthong Æ, making the name R[E ?]STÆCE."

We may here observe, had it not been for the protection afforded to this stone by the shelter of the old yew tree, already alluded to, the inscription upon it would have been obliterated ages ago; more particularly when we consider, as Professor John Rhys states, that it may be of the fifth or sixth century; and something ought to be done, if possible, to preserve it, and prevent the stone from splitting.

Professor Rhys (*Arch. Camb.*, 1876, p. 245), says "perhaps neither *an* IXIII nor *an* LXIII is correct, for it may possibly be ani. XIII for annis XIII." The O following the three I's is very minute, and seems scarcely intended for a letter.

MONTGOMERY CASTLE.

SUPPLEMENTARY DETAILS TO THE ACCOUNT GIVEN IN VOL. X, P. 61.

THE incidents, connected with the old Castle of Montgomery, cannot fail to impart pleasure and interest to an archæological society of Powys-land. The repairs it needed in time of peace against future contingencies, its supply of arms, its resources in lands and money, its claims for aid and support from neighbouring dignitaries or towns, the correspondence of its castellans, and its changeful experience of prosperity and adversity, still claim our attention, and recall our thoughts to feudal times, and the still earlier era of our nationality and independence. We are always ready to collect the waifs and strays of a bygone age, and to wander in quest of further relics, while we entreat the co-operation of other wanderers in the fields of antiquarian lore.

I.

In the first instance, we will quote, from an eminent modern historian, passages, in which Montgomery Castle occupies a very prominent part, but which also relate to the general history of the period, and commence with the important position of Montgomery Castle on the borders of Wales.

"The possession of this formidable fortress on the outskirts of Powysland was deemed a point of the highest consideration, and not unlikely to turn the scale in favour of the victorious occupant. The independence of Wales was not to be secured by any sudden outburst of patriotism, when the gallant spirits of Central Wales, like its mountain rivers swollen by heavy rain, burst through every barrier, and recovered, in an incredibly short time, the open plains of their

fatherland. The tide of conquest soon ebbed, and the territories, that were speedily won, were almost as speedily lost. The Cambrian warrior and statesman, Cadwgan ap Bleddin, and William Rufus, were equally aware, that the liberties of Wales, and the extension of the realms of Norman monarchs, were results dependent on the secure tenure of the border castles, and they contended for the prize with a hardihood proportioned to its value. The reign of William Rufus was a time of great and lasting advance at the cost of the Britons. It was the time, when large parts of Wales were more or less fully brought under the authority of the English crown. It is still more distinctly the time, when Norman adventurers, subjects of the English crown, carved out for themselves, as its vassals, possessions, and lordships, within the British land. Yet the first impression, which we draw from the writers who record the British warfare of the reign of William Rufus, is that it was a time of ill success on the English side, especially in those campaigns in which the king himself took a part. The chronicler records an expedition, and he sends up a wail at its ill-luck. Nothing came of it: horses and men, not a few, were lost. The Welsh escaped to their moors and mountains, where no man might come at them. One chief is put to flight in a battle, but the others go on doing mischief all the same. The same story comes almost every year. One would think, that the warfare of the Red King with the Welsh was a warfare, than which none was ever more bootless. And a historian, who aspires to more of critical and philosophical insight, sums up the whole British warfare of the reign.[1]

"Yet it is clear, from the result, that it was not so. And one passage in the chronicle seems to give us the

[1] *Will. Malms.*, iv, 311: "Contra Walenses Gulielmus expeditionem movens, nihil magnificentia sua dignum exhibuit, militibus multis desideratis, jumentis interceptis. Nec tum solum, sed multotiens, parva illi in Walenses fortuna fuit, quod cuivis mirum videatur, cum ei alias semper alea bellorum felicissime arriserit."

key to the whole matter. 'When the king saw, that he could there further nothing of his will, he came back into this land, and took rede, that he might let make castles on the borders.'[1] An expedition, which seemed mere failure, in which many men and horses were lost, while the Welsh escaped to moors and mountains, with hardly any loss at all, was really successful in the long run, if it led to the building of a border castle. The Britons fled unhurt to their mountains; but, while they lurked in the fastnesses, where none might come at them, the most valuable part of their land was taken from them bit by bit. When they came down again from the mountains, they found a castle built: they found so much land, as the castle could protect, changed into a settlement of strangers. The lands might be harried, the castle might at some favourable moment be broken down, but it was sure to spring up again and again to do its work. The lasting possession of the fertile land had passed away to the invaders: the moors and mountains alone were left to the sons of the soil.

"Wales is, as every one knows, pre-eminently the land of castles. Castles, great and small, or the ruins, or traces, of such castles, meet us at every step. It was needful to strengthen every height, to guard every pass, while the moors and mountains, the Asturias, or the Tzernagora of the Cymry, still remained unsubdued. The castles are, in truth, the leading architectural features of the country; the churches, mostly small and plain, might themselves, with their fortified towers, almost count as castles. The towns, almost always of English foundation, were mostly small: they were military colonies, rather than seats of commerce. As Wales had no immemorial cities like Exeter and Lincoln, so she had no towns, which sprang up into greatness in later times, like Bristol, Norwich, and Coventry. Every memorial of former days, which we see in the British land, reminds us, how long warfare

[1] *Chron. Petrib.*, 1097.

remained in the daily business alike of the men of that land, and of the strangers, who had made their way into it at the sword's point.

"Neither the days of Edward the Confessor, nor the days of the elder William, were days of peace along the Welsh border. The English frontier had advanced during both reigns. Rhuddlan, Montgomery, Cardiff, had become border fortresses of England. An indefinite tract of North Wales was held by Robert of Rhuddlan. Radnor was an English possession: the followers of Earl Roger of Montgomery had harried as far as the peninsula of Dyfed. The whole land seems to have made some submission to William the Great at the time when he made his pilgrimage to St. David's, and set free so many of his captive subjects. But real conquest does not seem to have gone very far beyond the border fortresses, as within the march of the Marquess of Rhuddlan it did not go very far from the coast."[1]

Next as to the outbreak of the Welsh, and the English policy in the 11th century.

"Towards autumn 1095, while the siege of Bamburgh was going on, after he had himself turned away from it, and left the Evil Neighbour to do its work, William Rufus heard a piece of news from the British Border, which at once stirred up into action. One of the great fortresses of the March had fallen. In vain had Earl Roger made his nest on the rock, to which he gave the name of his own Norman home. Montgomery, Tre Baldwin, was in the hands of the Britons, and all Earl Hugh's men within it were slain. William was wroth at the tidings, and he at once called out the fyrd of his realm, so much of it as was not needed for the lingering leaguer-work in Northumberland. Soon after Michaelmas he entered Wales at the head of his host. He divided it into parties, and caused them to go thoroughly through the land. At last, by the feast of All-hallows, the whole army met together at Snow-

[1] Freeman's *Reign of William Rufus*, vol. ii, pp. 77, 78.

don. If merely marching through a territory could subdue it, William Rufus had now done a good deal towards the conquest of Gwynedd. But William Rufus was not Harold: the master of continental chivalry could not bring himself to copy Harold's homely tactics. While the royal army scoured the dales, the Welsh betook themselves to the moors and mountains, where no man might come at them. Harold had found out the way to come at them, but the Red King knew it not. All that he could do was to go homeward, when he saw that he there, in the winter, might do no more. The British annalists with good right might rejoice, as they tell, how God their people sheltered in the strong places of their land, and how the King and his host went away empty, having taken nothing.[1]

"The next year saw the bloody Gemót at Salisbury: it saw Europe pour forth its forces for the deliverance of Eastern Christendom: it saw the Red King become master of the Norman duchy. Among such cares, William had no time, perhaps he felt no strong call, for another Welsh campaign, either in summer or winter. But the lords of the Marches could not thus be idle. The year 1096 seems to have begun with another gain on the part of the Britons. William, son of Baldwin, who had kept the castle of Rhyd-y-gors safe through all perils up to this time, now died. His spirit did not abide in his garrison: they left the castle empty, a prey to the enemy. The spirit of the Britons, even in the lands which seemed most thoroughly subdued, now rose. The natives were in arms along the whole line of the Usk. Brecheiniog, Gwent, and Gwenllwg, the land between Usk and Wye, and the land between Usk and Rhymny, threw off, as their own writers say, the yoke of the French. The Normans, or English, whichever we are to call the hosts of England

[1] *Ann. Camb.*, 1095. "Mediante autumno rex Anglorum Willielmus contra Britones movit exercitum, quibus Deo tutatis vacuus ad sua castra rediit."

under the Red King, had thus for three years met with nothing but defeat. Yet they had in truth won the land. 'The folk stayed in their homes, trusting fearlessly, though the castles were yet whole, and the castlemen in them.' The fortresses might be hemmed in for a moment; but, as long as they stood whole with the castlemen in them, the newly-won freedom of the open country was liable to be upset at any moment. The result of English dealings with Wales, during many years of warfare, may be summed up as immediate loss, and final success; as defeat in detail, leading to substantial conquest. Thus Earl Roger, from his capital at Shrewsbury, and his strong outpost at his new British Montgomery, pushed on his dominion into Powys."[1]

The same historian remarks, that the frequent warfare with Wales was unpopular in England.

"Who could be tempted by the prospect of a march to Snowdon, even in the fairest weather? What interest had the men of, perhaps, far-off English shires in riveting the dominion of a Norman lord on the men of Brecknock, or Pembroke? No doubt every Englishman was ready to drive back the Briton from Shropshire and Herefordshire; but it was an irksome and bootless work to go and attack him in his own land. a land, from which even conquerors could draw so little gain."[2]

He also thus graphically groups the Welsh fortresses, of which Montgomery Castle was not the least important.

"A chain[3] of great earldoms, settled by William Rufus along the border-land, at once bridled the old marauding forays. From his County Palatine of Ches-

[1] Freeman's *Reign of William Rufus*, vol. ii, p. 108.

[2] *Ibid.*

[3] "The struggle for independence in Wales." *Flor. Wig.*, 1094. "Ad hæc etiam primitus North Walani, deinceps West Walani, et Suth Walani, servitutis jugo, quo diu premebantur, excusso, et cervice erecta, libertatem sibi vindicare laborabant."

ter, Hugh the Wolf harried Flintshire into a desert. The Earldom of Gloucester curbed Britain along the lower Severn. Monmouth and Abergavenny were seized by Norman castellans. Bernard of Newmarch won the lordship of Brecknock. Roger of Montgomery ruled the town and fortress in Powys, which took possession of his name."[1]

We now proceed to documents specifically relating to Montgomery Castle, and having chiefly a local interest. We commence with a complaint of William Venator, Constable of Montgomery, against the burgesses of Ludlow for non-attendance before the Justices of the King, according to notice.

"To all those, who may see or hear these Letters, William Venator [Huntsman] Constable of Mungomery, greeting. I make known unto you, that the burgesses of our Lord the King of Mungomerie, on the day appointed between them, and Peter Milesant, and the Burgesses of Ludelawe, faithfully appeared before the Justices of our Lord the King within Easter week, on which day I was personally present with the said Burgesses of Mungomerie, and Peter Milesant and the burgesses of Ludelawe did not appear upon that day, nor send anyone in their place. In testimony whereof I have affixed my seal to these present letters. Farewell, and a day was appointed at the Castle of the Lord Bishop of Hereford."—*Temp.* Henry III, vel Edw. I, *circa* 1272.

This document shows the name of an additional Constable of Montgomery Castle, William Venator. It relates to some litigation between the burgesses of Montgomery and Peter Milesant and the burgesses of Ludlow, but the nature of the dispute does not appear; the latter, however, made default in appearance. The fact, that the litigation came to be fixed to be heard at Montgomery, leads to the inference, that the Court of the King's Justices was at this time held at Montgomery, for the hearing of causes of the surrounding district, extending as far as Ludlow.

[1] Freeman's *Reign of William Rufus.*

We next come to a document of quite a different character. It relates to a mortgage on houses, lands, and tenements, belonging, apparently, to a chaplain of the chapel in Montgomery Castle. It is dated 27 Edward I, 1242-3.

"27 Edw. I, 1242-3.—Be it patent to all, that I, John de Cadorno, Rector of the Church of Mongomery, do free, and assign, those houses, lands, and tenements, which formerly belonged to Sir David de Mongomery, Chaplain, deceased, and which had been liberated and assigned to me by that noble man, Sir Bogo de Knoville, Constable and Custodian of the Castle and Honor of the land of Mongomery, according to the mandate of our Lord the King, directed to him for a certain debt, in which the said David was held to me whilst he lived, to Nicolas Brysebor, and William Gagge of Montgomery, sureties for the said Sir David, in my possession for the said debt; to have and to hold the houses, lands, and tenements aforesaid, in like manner as I might hold and have the same for the said debt, until they have indemnified themselves for the said surety. In testimony whereof my seal is appended to these presents. Dated at Mongomery on the feast of the blessed Lawrence, in the twenty-seventh year of our Lord King Edward."

This document discloses the name of John de Cadorno, one of the earliest rectors of the Church of Montgomery. In the list of rectors given by Eyton,[1] John de Cadorno is not mentioned, and only one rector, William, is given, who is of an earlier date. The second mentioned by Eyton, was William le Brun, who was presented on the 26 June 1244, and must have succeeded John de Cadorno. This document also mentions Sir David de Montgomery, chaplain, we presume, of the Chapel in the Castle. We come to this conclusion, because Sir Bogo de Knoville assumes, as Constable of the Castle, to assign the lands of the deceased chaplain, Sir David, to John de Cadorno, the Rector of Montgomery, for securing a debt owing by him to the latter.

This simple and domestic document, being, in fact, a

[1] *Antiquities of Shropshire*, xi, pp. 148-9.

transfer of John de Cadorno's securities to "Nicholas Brycebor and William Gagge of Montgomery, sureties for the said Sir David," for the purpose of indemnifying them for the money paid by them for their Principal, thus incidentally gives interesting information, which hitherto had not been obtained from other sources.

We now proceed with a document giving an elaborate account of the lamentable state, to which Montgomery Castle, its chapel, and their several contents, had been reduced in the year 1309-10, when Hugh Audeley entered the Castle as its Constable. The original is in French, and many parts of it are illegible.

"A Memorandum of the defects, which are in the Castle of Mongumery the day that Mons. Hwe [Hugh] de Audeley entered the said Castle, as Constable, that is to say the Tuesday next after the feast of our Lady 'en quareme' [Shrove Tuesday] the third year of the King. In the first place all the covering of lead of the great Tower is defective, so that the . . . . . [Meim (?)] is on the point of perishing. Another defect is that the other Chief Tower is . . . . . [creu] so that it is on the point of falling to pieces. Another defect is that . . . . . to the Chapel is defective; there is an old pair of vestments price half a mark; and another defect is that all manner of armour which should be in the Castle as furniture [garnesture] is defective: there are iij haubecks and v haubagions old and perished, xiij helmets [heumes], and xxv chapeaux de fer perished, which are of no value, xvij bucklers [targes], and iij lances old and perished. There are ix arbulesters of leather (?) [core] and iij baldricks, and x hokes of arrows [quarels], which are of little value. Another defect is that the . . . . . to the kitchen [cusine] of the Castle is defective; there is a pot of brass [arain] old and broken. Another defect is that there is no kind of vessel that belongs to brewing in the Castle. Another defect is that the . . . . . parts of the . . . . . of the Castle are with strength of "loc" (?) Another defect is that the . . . . . of the walls around the Castle, without, is decayed in all parts. Another defect is that the palisade, surrounding the park of the Castle, is entirely decayed. Another defect is, that the wall surrounding the grange of the Castle is entirely decayed. Another defect is that there is no manner of engine [dengeyn] to save the

Castle, when . . . . . We pray you, that these defects may be redressed for the profit of our Lord the King, and your honour, and our profit."

In the *Montgomeryshire Collections*, vol. x, p. 97, we have given a document of a not dissimilar nature, dated about ten years previously, being "an indenture" between Sir William de Leyburn on receiving, and Sir Bogo de Knovile on delivering up the Castle of Montgomery in 1301, the former succeeding the latter in the office of Constable of the Castle. We had found and noted, that Hugh de Audeley was a successor of Sir William de Leyburn, and had himself died in 1324, seized of the Manor of Chirbury, which, with the Hundred, belonged to the Castle of Montgomery. This document supplies the date of the entry of Sir Hugh de Audeley into the office of Constable of Montgomery.[1] It also gives many curious particulars of the state of the Castle, its chapel, and their armour and furniture, and how much all had suffered during the time of his predecessor, Sir William de Leyburn's ten years' term of office.

The document of 1301, and that of 1309-10, afford much the same sort of particulars, and it is interesting to compare the one with the other. The former does not mention the state of the structure of the Castle, but the latter gives a fearful account of its condition; the "chief tower is on the point of falling", and "all the covering of lead is defective, so that the [roof] is on the point of perishing."

As to the Chapel the former is silent, and states the ornaments of the Chapel included "one entire *pair* of vestments with a corporale", and other things, and *three casks* (what this means it is difficult to guess); whereas the latter says the Chapel is defective, and "there is an old *pair* of vestments, price half a mark", mentioning no other article.

[1] In the list of officers of Montgomery Castle (*Mont. Coll.*, vol. x, p. 123) must now be added, after Sir William de Leyburn, the following: "Sir Hugh de Audeley, 1309-10."

As to the armour, it had also fallen into disrepair and ruin; the former mentions "thirteen helmets as good as new", "28 chapelles de fer as good as new"; the latter "xiij helmets and xxv chapeaux de fer *perished*"; ten years is a short period for such a result. "The twenty damaged cross-bows and ten thousand quarrels and other such things, and the three cross-bows of horn for two feet and two for one foot, the [boasted] gift of Sir Bogo to the best of Princes" mentioned in the former list, are deemed of no account in the second, those that were remaining "were of little value". Amongst several domestic articles mentioned in the former is "1 mola ad manum sine hoper" (a handmill without a hopper); it is wanting in the latter; the use of the quern or handmill was evidently usual, and common, at the end of the thirteenth, and beginning of the fourteenth century.

The latter details the ruinous state of the outworks of the Castle, which is not mentioned in the former. The petty details of these old documents give an insight into the inner life of these ancient mediæval fortresses, which is not easily obtained elsewhere.

We now direct attention to legal proceedings commenced against several individuals for the abstraction of fish, and cutting down of trees in the town of Montgomery, belonging to Richard Middleton, dated about 15 Edward III (*circa* 1341).

"The King to the Sheriff of Shropshire, Greeting,—We enjoin you, as we have several times done, to seize John, son of Thomas de Espes, and Hugh, son of Philip le Caretere of Montgomery, William Curewent (?), Richard Jonesone of Montgomery, Philip Howelsone, John Howelsone, and William Waltersone, Howel le Baker, Adam Baker (?), John le Bruen, David Rogerson, Thomas Sterling, William de Cleve (?) of Montgomery, Richard le Smythe, Philip Mileson, and Thomas Herdman, if found in your bailiwick, and to hold them in custody, so that you may produce them before our justices at Westminster, the morrow of the Purification of the Blessed Mary, to answer to Robert de Middletone on a plea "quare vi et armis", they had cut down trees of the said Robert, lately

growing in the town of Montgomery, and had fished in his ponds, and had taken and carried away fish and trees to the value of £20, and had caused other annoyance to him, to the heavy loss of the said Richard, and against our peace; and be you yourself then there present to hear the judgment in this matter . . . . . and have this writ with you. Witness, R. Hillar, at Westminster, the 23rd day of November, the 15th year of our Reign over England, but the 2nd over France."

This document, perhaps, does not relate specially to the Castle of Montgomery, which certainly is not mentioned in it. "The trees growing in the *Town* of Montgomery", which were cut down by the defendants directed to be captured, were, however, not improbably in the grounds surrounding the Castle.

It will be observed the writ is directed to the Sheriff of Shropshire, whose jurisdiction then extended to Montgomery. The names of the defendants are worth noting, so many of them evidently being named after their fathers (following the analogy of the Welsh "*ap*" "son of"), and nearly as many after their trade or occupation.

Under the first category come:—

John, son of Thomas de Espes,
Hugh, son of Philip le Caretere
Richard Jonesone,
Philip Howelsone,
John Howelsone,
William Waltersone,
David Rogersone,
Philip Mileson,

Under the second the following may be placed:—

Howel le Baker,
Adam Baker, (?)
John le Bruen[1] [this may have been a sobriquet],
Richard le Smith,
Thomas Herdman.

One Robert de Cleve was named probably from his place of residence.

[1] William le Brun was Rector of Montgomery in 1244.

The details, that have been given of the surrender of Montgomery Castle, and of the conduct and motives of Lord Herbert of Chirbury on that occasion, have been scanty and insufficient, and we are glad to be able to give some further particulars.

Edward, the first Lord Herbert of Chirbury, sullied a great reputation by his surrender of Montgomery Castle to the Parliamentary forces. He was sufficiently sagacious to anticipate the triumph of the Republican party, and was anxious about the drain on his own pecuniary resources, if he continued to hoist his flag on the towers of his Castle for the losing side of the King and Cavaliers. He had previously lost large sums on public objects in the reign of James I, and was reluctant to incur fresh risks and losses for the cause of the Stuarts. Both political parties were inclined to show him the utmost consideration, partly from his proprietorship of the Castle, but chiefly from the sympathy he had covertly affected with the contending powers of the King and Parliament, as he vacillated between his personal predilection for Charles I, and his prudential policy for the fortunes of himself and his family. Age and sickness had impaired his physical and mental vigour, and we look in vain in his declining years for the undaunted courage and enterprise of his earlier career. He appears to have continued Governor of Montgomery Castle for awhile after his voluntary surrender, as a partisan of the Parliament.

> "Cœpisti melius quam desinis: ultima primis
> Cedunt; dissimiles hic vir et ille puer."—*Ovid.*

We propose to give some supplemental information respecting the surrender of Montgomery Castle, and the vacillating conduct of Edward Lord Herbert of Chirbury in that transaction, and a few other incidents of his declining years. The terms of his surrender of the Castle of Montgomery are but little known, and are specially interesting.

We give parenthetically a short extract from the *Historical MSS. Commission*, Appendix to Seventh Report, 667, supplied from the papers of W. M. Molyneux, Esq.

"December 1603. Letter from Edward Herbert, afterwards Lord Herbert of Chirbury, to Sir George More, Kt., at Losely. 'A note of fancifully-expressed courtesies,' dated from Montgomery Castle."—(*Vide* Kempe's *Losely* MSS.)

The following extract is indicative of the trouble and penalties, which the first Lord Herbert of Chirbury not unfrequently incurred by his vehemence and indiscretion.

"1642, May 21.—Petition of Edward Herbert, Baron of Cherbury and Castle Islands, prays for a benign interpretation of those words of his, which gave offence, and for release. (L.J., v, 77)."[1]

In the following letter, written apparently from Montgomery Castle, Lord Herbert details the exigencies of the times of the Civil War, the scarcity and dearness of provisions at Shrewsbury, the ordinary market for supply, and discloses his fear of worse privations.

"To Sir Henry Herbert.

"Sir Henry,—Though the messenger brought no letter from you to myselfe, yet because he tould me you were well, the welcome news thereof in these troublesome times invites me to congratulate it with you. Wee are here almost in as great straits, as if the warre were amongst us. Shrewsbury, which is our ordinary magazine, being exhausted of wine, vinegar, hops, paper, and pepper at four shillings the pound, and shortly a want of all commodities, that are not natives with us, will follow, the intercourse between us and London being interdicted. My dear and only brother, I wish you all health and happiness, and so rest, though much broken in my health,

"Your faithful lovinge brother,

"25th August, 1642. "E. Herbert."[2]

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[1] *Historical MSS. Works Commission*, Report v, p. 24; *House of Lords MSS. Calendar*, p. 24.

[2] *Mont. Coll.*, vi, 422.

We give next a letter of Edward, first Lord Herbert of Chirbury, referring to the decline of his strong constitution, and his deep anxiety in the issue of the Civil War, June 14th, 1643.

"Sir Henry,—The business I intended by you I have dispatched another way, I am thinkinge of a journey to the Spaw; but I doubt how I shall be able to go, my body beinge more infirme then to endure any labour. And let me assure you, I find myself grown older in this one yeare, than in fifty-nine yeares before; which, as it is true, I should bee glad were knowne among the best of those to whom you go. I shall pray for a good and speedy end to all those troubles, and, in particular, that God would guide those, who are now met. And here I must remember that, of all of us, there remains now but you and I to brother it. I pray you remember my kind love to your lady, and all yours. So I rest

"Your faithfull loving brother,

"Mossley, C., 14th June 1643. "Herbert.

"To the Right Worthy Sir Henry Herbert, Knight, at his house near Bewdley, Ribsford, S.S."

With reference to Lord Herbert of Chirbury's goods being seized, and to his surrendering of Montgomery Castle, the following documents, of which we give the effect, are set out in the *Historical MSS. Commissioners' Report*, as being among the MSS. of the trustees of the late Sir Richard Puleston, Bart., at Worthenbury Vicarage, co. Flint.

"1644, Sept. 21.—Petition of James Heath, servant to the Right Honorable the Lord Herbert of Cherbury, stating 'his master went, with the leave of the House, to his castle of Montgomery for his health's sake, and there remained, rejecting all offers from Prince Rupert and others to join them in the execution of the array, and since preserved the peace in those parts, and assisted the well-affected from time to time, but was prevented by sickness from coming to London, or disposing of his castle, which is of very great consequence, and the key of Wales, and is now delivered up to the Parliament, as the accompanying papers will shew: The petitioner prays that the further sale of his Lordship's goods in Camden House, and of the books in petitioner's custody, may be stayed by order of the House." To this petition was annexed:—

"1. Summary petition of James Heath undated.

"2. Copy order of the Commissioners for sale of the goods of Lord Herbert and others, 9th February 1643-4.

"3. Copy letter from Richard Moore to Mr. Trenchard, to the effect, that he understood some persons had leave to seize the goods of the Lord Herbert of Chirbury; that his Lordship's name may be faulty, but is confident his person is not, and that he desired them an inventory might be taken of his lordship's goods, and that they might be left in his house upon security, to be forthcoming if required, 3rd October 1643.

"4. Copy of order of Committee of Sequestration at Westminster, with a copy of the goods of Lord Herbert, 7th December 1643.

"5. Letter from Sir Thomas Myddleton, at Montgomery, to his much honoured cousin, John Glyn, Esq., Recorder of London. Is at this present at Montgomery town; has sent to the castle and received a satisfactory answer. The writer and his party have been at Newtown, and taken Sir Thomas Gardner, with his whole troop of Horse, his cornet and quarter-master, and about twenty-eight troops, the rest fled. Some sixty horse were taken and but few arms, for they had not many, and thirty-six barrels of powder intended for Chester, where they want it. Sir Thomas and his force came by forced marches from Oswestry to Newtown, with great difficulty, on account of the foulness of the roads, and the breaking of the bridges by the enemy, the water being so high, they could not pass through any ford. The prince with his beaten forces have gone from Chester, by Ruthin, etc., to Bishop's Castle. Desires that the sending of money and arms may be hastened: 5th September 1644. Noted by Glynn, 'I think it will be advantageous to the estate to forbear the disposing of my Lord's goods for one week longer, till we hear of his behaviour touching the surrender of the Castle.'—17th December 1644.

"1644, September 24th.—'The coppie of the Articles of Agreement betweene the Lord Cherbury and Seriant-Maior-Generall Sir Tho. Myddleton touchinge the surrend'r uppe of Montgomerye Castle:

"'I, James Till, Gent., as Lieutenant Collonell of horse, doe hereby, in the name of Sir Thomas Myddleton, Knight, promise and undertake, that noe violence shalbee offerd to the p'son or goods of Edward Lord Herbert, or any p'son or p'sons within his Castle of Montgomery; and that they shall have free liberty to goe out of the said Castle, and carry away their goods and money, whensoever they will; and that a good convoy shal bee graunted for the safe doeing thereof, as farr as Coventry; and recommendations given to the officers there for

the further conveying of the said person and goods to London, if it bee required; and that in the meane while a true Inventory shalbee taken of all the household stuffe used in the said Castle, and of all the Bookes, Trunkes and wrytings in the said Castle, and that all the horses and cattell in and about the said Castle, and all p'visions of victuals, wine and beare, shalbee imployed for vse of the said Edward Lord Herbert and his family; and that noe money, silver, gould, or plate, shalbee taken from the said Edward Lord Herbert or any of his family; and that the said Castle, with all the goodes, Bookes, and Armes of the said Edward Lord Herbert shalbee restored and redelyvered to the said Edward Lord Herbert, if it please God to send peace, or the Parliament order it soe to be done. And that in the meanwhile the said Edward Lord Herbert, with his daughter and family, shall continue in or returne to the said Castle as formerly they did, if they soe please; and that they shall carry into the said Castle all provisions necessary for cloathing or diet. And it is further agreed that Sir Thomas Myddleton shall syne and seale this accord or agreement, if the said Edward Lord Herbert shall require it; and shall also further and assist the bailiffs of the said Edward Lord Herbert in the leavying of his rents, and also pr'serve his woods and deere. Dated halfe an houre past twelve of the clocke at midnight on Thursday the fift day of September, Anno D'ni 1644.

"'And it is further agreed that as longe as the said Lord Herbert or his daughter continue in the said Castle, there shall not exceede the number of twenty-four p'sons or souldiers, vnlesse some iminent dainger appeares; and that noe Trunkes or doores vnder locks and keys shalbee broken open. And that if it happen that the said Lord Herbert at any time doe remove from the said Castle, that the said Lord Herbert shall have halfe a dozen men servants within the said Castle to doe the business of the said Lord Herbert, and three or four maides to attend his said daughter. And that if anythinge may be required for the further satisfac'con and contentment of the said Edward Lord Herbert, it shalbee lawful hereafter to explaine and add the same.

"'James Till.

"'Witnesses—

Hugh Price,	Oliver Herbert,
Sammuel More,	Rowland Evans,
Edward Price,	Daniell Edwards.

"'Whereas there is a doubt, what goods should be removed away

out of the Castle of Montgomery by Edward Lord Herbert: It is agreed that there shalbee left within the said Castle six beds for souldiers, one suite of Hangings in the Dyneing roome in the new Castle, as also one suite of hangings and furniture for a chamber w'thin the said Castle, wherein Sir Thomas Myddleton shall please to lodge, and one bed with furniture for a Captain. And it is further agreed, that there shall noe person or persons enter into the library or study of the said Edward Lord Herbert, or the two next Roomes or chambers adjoining to the said study or library, during the time of the absence of the said Edward Lord Herbert, or at any other time. It is further agreed, that the said Edward Lord Herbert shall remove and carry all his goods out of the said Castle, except the beds and furniture before mentioned, when the said Edward Lord Herbert shall think fitt.

"'I am content to stand to all the before specified agreements in every point. "'EDWARD HERBERT.'"

James Heath's petition gives curious particulars of Lord Herbert; that he went to the Castle with the leave of the House; that Prince Rupert had made strong efforts to win him over; that his Lordship had rejected them, and "since had assisted the well-affected", an ambiguous phrase; and that an order was made by the Parliamentary Commission in February 1643-4 for the sale of Lord Herbert's goods.

Richard Moore's apologetic letter shows the sort of impression that existed about Lord Herbert's vacillating conduct, and the distinction drawn between "his name" and "his person" is curious; the saving of his goods from being sold seemed the object of the letter, and it is to be remarked that this letter is dated 3rd October 1644, and *after* the surrender of the Castle. It seems as if there was hesitation as to the course to be pursued with reference to his Lordship, apparently implying a doubt of his good faith.

Sir Thomas Myddleton's letter, dated 5th September 1644, before the surrender of the Castle, mentions his having "sent to the Castle and received a satisfactory answer", which doubtless was an expression of willingness to surrender the Castle, which was effected with

Colonel Till that night, "at half-past twelve at midnight".

Sir T. Myddleton gives an account of an engagement at Newtown, which is not recorded elsewhere.

The agreement between Colonel Till and Lord Herbert was evidently dictated by Lord Herbert, his diplomatic skill is palpable therein, and his great anxiety to secure his goods is obvious. The terms, granted him by the Parliamentarians, show that they regarded his siding with them of great importance, and that they were willing to show him and his daughter great consideration, in order to effect that object. The surrender of the Castle was made three weeks and more before the Royalists were engaged and beaten, as we shall see on the 29th September 1644.

Upon Sir T. Myddleton's letter Glynn makes a note, dated the 17th December 1644, which is puzzling. He recommends forbearance as to his Lordship's goods "till we hear of his behaviour touching the surrender of the Castle". Lord Herbert had surrendered the Castle on the 5th September previous, but Lord Herbert appears to have continued in possession of it on behalf of the Parliament. What could Glynn's expression mean, "till we hear of his behaviour touching the surrender of the Castle"? Does it imply a doubt of his Lordship's good faith in giving up possession of the Castle, which he had been entrusted with by Parliament?

The next extract refers to the indisposition of Lord Herbert on the day preceding the battle near Montgomery.

Colonel Chadwick Stafford, Sept. 28, 1644. "The Lord Herbert is with us, is not well, and will ere long come to the Parliament."[1]

A battle was fought between the Parliamentarians and Royalists, near Montgomery, on 29th Sept. 1644,

[1] *Historical MSS. Commission*, Report iv; Earl of Denbigh's MSS., p. 270.

in which the latter were defeated, and an account of the losses sustained by them is given in a letter from Sir Ralph Sydenham to the Earl of Bath there.

"Affairs bad in Wales. We have been shrewdly beaten before Montgomery Castle by Fairfax, Gill, and others. We had between four and five hundred slain, and about 1,000 taken prisoners, many of them men of quality. My Lord Biron was not at it."[1]

In 1647 Lord Herbert seemed still to have to do with the Castle. The following letter from Edward Allen, who was apparently his servant there, shows that such was the case. Moreover it gives an account of a contest, which is of local interest.

"1647, May 7. Letter from Edward Allenn at Montgomery Castle to Edward Lord Herbert of Chirbury, and Castle Island, in Queen Street. Last Tuesday night upwards of three score soldiers marched from Pool in a hostile manner, and surrounded Sutton House, and, after two hours' resistance, broke open the doors, and took Mr. Griffith to Montgomery town, where they brought other gentlemen prisoners; the soldiers then fired upon the Castle, but the writer would not permit his men to reply for fear of making the soldiers use their prisoners worse, for whose release they demand £300. The writer then tried to obtain men from the town to strengthen his garrison, but none would come, unless they were paid. Captain Lloyd, however, procured twenty of his old soldiers, and Mrs. Herbert required her servants to come from Stallow, with which help he doubts not to hold the Castle, notwithstanding the threats of such desperate men, as these soldiers are. The writer has not so much as meat to give his auxiliaries for their service, and desires speedy directions for his conduct.[2]

We now turn to the petition of Edward, first Lord Herbert of Chirbury, for pecuniary aid, presented to Parliament three months previous to his death. *Appendix* to Seventh Report of the Royal Commission of Historical Manuscripts.

[1] Manuscript of Earl De la Warr, Baron Buckhurst, at Knole Park, co. Kent. See *Royal Commission of Historical MSS.*, appendix to Fourth Report, p. 296.

[2] *Historical MSS. Commission Report.*

House of Lords, Calendar, A.D. 1648. 24 A Part I.

"May 4th, 1648. Petition of Edward, Lord Herbert of Cherbury. Upon the surrender of his Castle at Montgomery he had £20 a week allowed him. Much of this money is now in arrear, and he prays, that it may be presently paid, and the order continued, if not during his life, as the Earl of Mulgrave had it, yet at least, until he be satisfied for the losses he sustained for two years and three months, during which time he kept his Castle, until he submitted it unto the Parliament, which losses appear by good certificate to amount to divers thousand pounds. (L. F.)"

We proceed to supply references to the former importance of Montgomery Castle, and the exact sum allowed by Parliament to Richard, second Lord Herbert of Chirbury.

"*Montgomery.*—The ruins of the noble Castle of that place have not yet ceased to attract the eye for many a mile around by the fragments of its walls and towers, which then were perfect, and capable of stout resistance.

Aubrey says of it, "The castle of Montgomery was a most romantique seate: it stood upon a promontory, the north side 30 foote high. From hence is a most delightfull prospect 4 severall ways."[1] And it shall be no disparagement to Montgomery Castle, and worthy to be had in remembrance, that George Herbert was born there. Lord Herbert of Chirbury (called Black Herbert), who dwelt therein, by a rare privilege that nothing so much perhaps as its condition and remoteness had given him a chance of asserting, *had held it hitherto in a sort of undisputed neutrality.* "It is one of the goodliest and strongest places," observes a veteran, "I ever looked upon." But when Middleton entered the town, and pressed him to compliance, Herbert consented by treaty to admit his forces, and to apply to their use the cap-

[1] *Letters from the Bodleian*, 2, ii, 390. "By order of Parliament, June 11, 1649, the Council of State were charged with its total demolition, Lord Herbert having an allowance for it out of the 2nd payment for his fine for delinquency. The damage was assessed at £4,000."

tured stores. To recover these, Lord Byron collected a force from Chester, Ludlow, and other garrisons, and came upon Middleton, while he was endeavouring to provision the fortress. He hastily retreated with his horse to Oswestry, and they laid siege to the castle. But having, without loss of time, called Meldrum, Brereton, and Sir William Fairfax, with 3,000 men to help him, Middleton came back to raise it; at whose arrival the Royalists, leaving a guard to keep the trenches, drew off their main body to a neighbouring eminence. The first object of the Parliamentarians was to throw in provisions; and detachments were sent out to collect them. When those, who were observing them, saw this from the height, on which they were posted, it tempted them to descend from their vantage-ground and offer battle. This one hour's hard tug of war, doubtful till the last charge on which side success would incline, could it be set forth in its just and particular proportions, would by every account have furnished many a terribly picturesque subject for a battle painter. For, according to the candid admission of the winners, it was in very truth a well-fought field, not in technical evolutions, but hard handstroke, and push of pike; and the loss of it was unusually fatal to the vanquished, because the pursuit and execution of the dispersed and fugitives were continued a long way over a shelterless mountain. That loss fell upon the king's forces, and for the number and description of them was heavy, and irreparable.

"Their party consisted of 1,500 horse and 2,000 foot, the residue of the valuable Irish regiments of Broughton, Warren, Hunks, Ernle, and that of the Prince of Wales. Few of the horse were lost; but the foot, with their officers, were nearly all taken or killed; hardly 100 escaped. Their carriages, and twenty barrels of powder, which had reached them the night before the battle, fell into the enemies' hands. The despatches of Middleton, Brereton, and Meldrum, magnify, as well they might, this victory, and announce with generous

exultation the valour of the Cavaliers, and the irretrievable consequences of the blow."[1]

The following important petition of Edward, Lord Herbert of Chirbury (the son, and successor, of Richard, Lord Herbert of Chirbury) shows, what great efforts the father and son had made in the Royal Cause, and the poverty to which the latter was reduced, which compelled him to seek an office of emolument under the Crown.

"To the King's Most Excellent Majestie.

"The humble petition of Edward Lord Herbert, Baron of Cherbury and Castle Islands.

"SHEWETH,—That Richard Lord Herbert, the petitioners' ffather, was personally engaged in the Warrs under His late Ma'tie of blessed memory, whom hee faithfully served. And raysed 1,500 foot, and a troop of Horse, at his owne charges to promote his Ma'tie's Royall interest, for which the petitioner's ffather was forced to pay a great composition to the then pretended powers, who caused the Castle of Montgomery belonging to the petitioner to be demolished, after the same was compounded for by the petitioner's ffather, who at the demolishment of the said Castle lost a great reall and personall estate, and had noe Mansion house left him. And alsoe lost all the rents, issues and proffitts of his estate in Ireland for diverse yeares, soe that by reason thereof, and the vast expence the petitioner's ffather was at in raysing men and armes for his Ma'tie's service, the petitioner's ffather contracted a great debt, w'ch remaynes unsatisfied, and left the petitioner's younger brothers and sisters wholly unprovided of porc'ons and maintenance, being seaven in number. And your petitioner did, in the worst of tymes, hazard his life and fortunes in your Ma'tie's service at Chester, where your petitioner had 140 horse, which he raised at his owne charge to promote that designee. The petitioner's debts being thereby much increased, and the more in regard to the losses hee susteyned after his ingagements, soe that the petitioner is utterly disabl'd to pay the said debts, or to make any provision for his younger brothers and sister, reserving a competency to mainteyne the petitioner at a port equall to his quality.

"May it therefore please your sacred Ma'tie to take the

[1] Rev. T. W. Webb's *Civil War in Herefordshire*, vol. ii, from page 82 to 84.

petitioner's sufferings, and condition, to your princely consideration. And that you would be gratiously pleased to grant to your petitioner your letters pattents to be Treasurer and Receiver Generall of the Revenue belonging to your Royal Consort, or that your Ma'tie would conferre such other imployment on the petitioner, as to your Sacred Ma'tie shall seeme meete.

And your petitioner shall pray, etc.

We have for the present exhausted our stock of materials. We deeply regret, that the curtain fell prematurely on the drama of the annals of Montgomery Castle, and that the stern decree of the Parliament of 1648 has entailed a desolation of more than two centuries on the distinguished spot. Its council-chamber for deliberation has perished. Shelter and accommodation no longer exist for its defenders.

"Like shadows have the mighty passed away."—*Atherstone.*

But we have still the melancholy privilege of setting a high value on a site so renowned, and memorable, as a key of Central Wales.

"The whirlwind's wrath, the earthquake's shock,
Have left untouch'd its hoary rock."—*Byron.*

We feel that there are deeds which should not pass away, and names which must not wither. The events, interwoven with the chronicles of the Castle, retain an undiminished charm for our interest, and the various records of olden time, like the primitive walls of the dilapidated fortress, arrest our sympathies, and seem imperceptibly to render us denizens of a mediæval age, and loyal subjects of the Principality of Powys-land.

G. S.
M. C. J.

MILITIA REGIMENTS IN MONTGOMERY-SHIRE.

Royal Eastern Montgomery Regiment of Local Militia.

List of Officers in 1809.

Edward Viscount Clive	Commandant.
John Winder	Lieut. Colonel.
Charles Dallas	Major.
John Owen Herbert	Major.
Thomas Jones	Captain.
Maurice Jones	Ditto.
Evan Stephens	Ditto.
George Gould	Ditto.
John Asterley	Ditto.
Thomas Lloyd Dicken	Ditto.
Lewis Griffithes	Ditto.
John Jones	Ditto.
George Arthur Herbert	Ditto.
George Colley	Ditto.
Thomas Yates	Lieutenant.
Thomas Davies	Ditto.
Richard Humphreys	Ditto.
Richard Morris	Ditto.
George Illingworth	Ditto.
Arthur Lloyd Humphreys	Ditto.
Thomas Worthington	Ditto.
Matthew Edward Jones	Ditto.
Thomas Gough	Ensign and Lieut.
Robert Baugh	Ditto.
Arthur Gardner	Lieutenant.
Evan Parry	Ditto.
Thomas Pryce	Ensign and Lieut.
Henry Jones	Surgeon.
Richard Farmer	Adjutant.
Francis Allen	Quarter-Master.
Edward Smith	Ensign.

COMPANIES IN 1809.

Captains.		Sergts.	Corpls.	Drummers.	Privates.	Total.
Thomas Jones	Grenadier Company	3	3	3	60	69
Lewis Griffithes	1st Company	3	3	2	60	68
Evan Stephens	2nd Company	3	3	2	60	68
T. Ll. Dicken	3rd Company	3	3	2	60	68
John Asterley	4th Company	3	3	2	60	68
John Jones	5th Company	3	3	2	60	68
George Gould	6th Company	3	3	2	60	68
George Colley	7th Company	3	3	2	60	68
Maurice Jones	8th Company	3	3	2	60	68
Geo. A. Herbert	Light Infantry	3	3	3	60	69
	Total:	30	30	22	600	682

Officers—Commandant	1		
Lieutenant-Colonel	1		
Majors	2		
Captains	10		
Lieutenants	10		
Ensigns and Lieutenants	3		
Ensign	1		
Surgeon.	1		
Adjutant	1		
Quarter-Master	1		
	31	Total officers	31
		Total	713

PERMANENT STAFF OF THE REGIMENT.

From 24 *Sept.* 1808 *to* 24 *Dec.* 1808.

1 Adjutant.
1 Quarter-Master.
1 Serjeant-Major.
10 Serjeants.
5 Drummers.

18

From 24 *Dec.* 1808 *to* 1 *Feb.* 1810.

1 Adjutant.
1 Quarter-Master.
1 Serjeant-Major.
21 Serjeants.
21 Corporals.
1 Drum-Major.
11 Drummers.

57

From 1 *Feb.* 1810 *to* 24 *June* 1810.

1 Adjutant.
1 Quarter-Master.
1 Serjeant-Major.
10 Serjeants.
1 Drum-Major.
4 Drummers.

18

From 24 *June* 1810 *to* 29 *July* 1813.

1 Adjutant.
1 Quarter-Master.
1 Serjeant-Major.
15 Serjeants.
1 Drum-Major.
9 Drummers.

28

From 29 *July* 1813 *to* 24 *June* 1814	*From* 24 *June* 1814.....
1 Adjutant.	1 Adjutant.
1 Quarter-Master.	1 Quarter-Master.
1 Serjeant-Major.	1 Serjeant-Major.
13 Serjeants.	9 Serjeants.
1 Drum-Major.	1 Drum-Major.
16 Drummers.	16 Drummers.
33	29

Military District.

25th Sept. 1814, *North-West District, Cheshire, Shropshire, Lancashire, and North Wales. Head-quarters, Liverpool.*

Between the years 1809 and 1814 the regiment was possessed of the following musical instruments :—

2 Long drums, 1 pair of cymbals, 1 triangle, 1 tambourine, 1 trumpet, 4 bugles, 5 fifes B, 6 fifes C, 1 time regulator and plummet. It has one pair of colours.

DESCRIPTION AND SUCCESSION OF OFFICERS IN THE ROYAL MONTGOMERYSHIRE MILITIA.

Rank and Name.	Date of Appointment.	Date of first Commission.
Lieut.-Col. Davies	23rd July 1811	6th March 1798
Major Harrison	22nd July 1811	16th December 1802
Captain Daykin	29th July 1805	18th April 1807
„ Jones	17th February 1812	9th April 1807
„ Tudor	7th April 1812	7th April 1812
„ Williams	2nd March 1813	2nd March 1813
1st Lieut. Neuasoff	20th August 1803	6th July 1801
„ Hogg	19th January 1808	15th May 1807
„ Whiley	15th May 1809	24th April 1806
„ Brown	27th April 1813	27th April 1813
2nd Lieut. Smith	13th December 1813	13th December 1813
Adjutant Gilder	1st July 1808	6th June 1797
Paymaster Brown	29th May 1813	27th April 1813
Surgeon Swan	17th February 1812	29th June 1808

"Original to Captain Gilder, March 9th, 1825."

List of Deputy Lieutenants and Correspondence.

Copies of the Official Letters of Directions to the Lord-Lieutenant relating to the County of Montgomery.

"Whitehall, 29th July 1820.

"My Lord,—Having laid before the King your Lordship's letter of the 26th inst., recommending the following as fit persons to be Deputy-Lieutenants for the County of Montgomery, I have the satisfaction to acquaint your Lordship that His Majesty is graciously pleased to approve thereof, viz. :—

Sir Charles Thomas Jones, Kt.
Richard Edmunds of Edderton, Esq.
William Owen of Glansevern, Esq.
Panton Corbett of Leighton, Esq.
Robert John Harrison of the Gaer, Esq.
Joseph Hayes Lyon of Cefnblewog, Esq.
Martin Williams of Brongwyn, Esq.
George Gould of Golfa, Esq.
The Rev. David Hughes, Rector of Llanfyllin.
The Rev. Rowland Williams, Vicar of Myfod.

"I have the honour, etc.

"The Earl of Powis, etc."

(Circular.)

"Whitehall, 11th June 1836.

"My Lord,—In consequence of repeated recommendations from the Lord-Lieutenants of counties in Great Britain to add to the number of their deputies, my attention has of late been much drawn to these appointments, and referring to the last returns made to Parliament (13th July 1835), I find that in nearly every county there are many more deputy-lieutenants than are necessary to perform the duties imposed on that body. In these circumstances I do not deem it expedient that Her Majesty should be advised to approve of any further appointments unless some special reason should exist for maintaining or increasing the present number.

"Your Lordship will therefore understand that it is not from any distrust of the fitness of the persons hitherto recommended that have been sent to this office, and I have to request your Lordship to consider this letter as a general intimation of the course which my sense of duty prescribes to me upon this subject.

"I have the honour to be, my Lord,

"Your Lordship's most obedient humble servant,

"J. Russell.

"Her Majesty's Lieutenant of the County of Montgomery."

"Whitehall, 27th April 1846.

"My Lord,—I have laid before the Queen your Lordship's letter of the 23rd inst. recommending—

Parish.	
[*In Pencil.*]	Viscount Clive.
	Hon. Thomas Charles Hanbury Tracy (of Gregynog).
	Hon. Henry Hanbury Tracy.
Llanbrynmair.	Sir John Conroy, Bart. (of Plas-yn-Pennant).
Llanfechan.	Robert M. Bonnor Maurice.

Pool.	John Davies Corrie.
Berriew.	John W. L. Winder.
Guilsfield.	John Jones.
Llandisilio.	John James Turner.
Churchstoke.	William Morris.
Berriew.	John Robinson Jones.
	Thomas Owen.
	David Hamer.
Churchstoke.	John Owen.
Carno.	John Foulkes.
Llandinam.	John Offley Crewe Read.
Mallwyd.	Joseph Davies.
Llanidloes.	George Meares.
Newtown.	A. M. Morley (of Newtown Hall).
Aberhavesp.	Henry Adolphus Proctor.
	Charles (Vaughan) Pugh (of Llanerchydol).
	William Lutener.
Machynlleth.	Humphrey Jones Evans.
	Clopton Lewis Wingfield.
	Robert Devereux Nichols, Esquires.

to be Deputy Lieutenants for the co. of Montgomery, and I am to inform your Lordship that Her Majesty is graciously pleased to approve thereof. "I have the honour, etc.,

"The Earl of Powis, etc. "J. R., G. Graham."

List of Out-Pensioners in Montgomeryshire in 1836.

"Whitehall, 6th July 1836.

"My Lord,—I have the honour to transmit to your Lordship a list of the out-pensioners of Chelsea Hospital residing in the County of Montgomery, who are reported to be fit for service. Similar lists have been forwarded to the lord-lieutenants of neighbouring counties.

"It appears to me, in case of any riot or tendency to breach of the peace, the possession of such a list may be useful to the lord-lieutenant and the magistracy.

"In case, likewise, of filling up any vacancies which it may be necessary to fill up among the serjeants of the militia, an out-pensioner, if able-bodied, of sober character, and able to write and keep accounts, will be, in my opinion, a deserving candidate for such vacancy. But no out-pensioner who cannot obtain from the clergyman of his parish or from his neighbours a character for sobriety and honesty, would be proper or eligible for the militia staff.

"I have the honour to be, etc.,

"The Viscount Clive. "J. Russell."

List of the names of Out-Pensioners of Chelsea Hospital residing in the County of Montgomery who have been found fit at the recent examination.

Regiments.	Names.	Rate of Pension. s.	d.	Place.
95th foot	John Walters	0	6	Llandilo
81st ,,	Howel Jenkins	0	5	,,
81st ,,	Thomas Morris	0	6	,,
90th ,,	John Hicks	0	7	Llanycaurne
33rd ,,	Edward Evans	0	7	Llanidloes
Artillery	Daniel Morgan	0	6	,,
53rd foot	George Marpole	0	6	,,
56th ,,	Evan Hughes	0	9	Newtown
11th ,,	Edward Andrews	0	10	,,
61st ,,	John Ford	0	10	,,
75th ,,	Joseph Mills	0	5	Welshpool
43rd ,,	Edward Davies	0	10	,,
23rd ,,	James Purcell	0	9	,,
Waggon train	David Adams	0	5	,,
64th foot	Rees Griffiths	0	6	,,
5th V	Vaughan Davies	0	6	,,
2nd Gren. Guards	Wm. Griffiths	0	6	,,
Militia	Thomas Bedward	0	5	,,
Rifle Brigade	James Stuckley	0	5	,,
Militia	Thomas Evans	0	5	,,
23rd foot	Wm. Williams	0	10	,,
81st ,,	John Edwards	0	9	,,

Copies of the Official Letters of Directions to the Lord Lieutenant relating to the County of Montgomery.

Earl of Powis, Lord-Lieutenant.

1. July 1, 1816.—Letter from Home Secretary, training of militia dispensed with this year, but steps to be taken to supply deficiencies. Ballot ordered 1816.

12. April 10, 1820.—Militia to be called out and trained for twenty-eight days.

13. April 21.—Requiring to know time and place of assembling.

14. May 30.—Men whose service expires this year not to be called out.

15. June 23.—Ballot for local militia suspended for this year.

17. Aug. 22.—Approval of militia assembling on Sept. 18, 1820.

19. May 29, 1821.—The [militia to assemble] on June 14 1821.

29. March 7, 1825.—Term of service of sixty-eight militiamen expiring this year; no training this year, but vacancies to be supplied.

31. May 5, 1825.—Approval of militia assembling on 8th June 1825.

36. Aug. 29.—Approving of appointment of Charles Gardiner Humphreys, Esq., as Captain.

41. May 8, 1827.—Inquiring why list not made out and ballot did not take place in 1826.

40. May 10.—From Secretary of State to same effect.

Viscount Clive, Lord-Lieutenant.

43. Dec. 30, 1830.—From Home Secretary with order in Council to supply vacancies.

47. Jan. 11, 1831.—Requesting the militia to be trained for twenty-eight days.

53. Jan. 25.—Directing the suspending swearing-in of special constables lest it should interfere with ballot of militia.

55. Feb. 4.—Training of militia to be deferred until after the ballot.

56. Feb. 10.—Approving of assembling of militia on 15th March.

57. Feb. 11, 1831.—Accepting the resignation of Captain Charles Gardiner Humphreys.

59. March 14.—Approving of appointment of Humphrey Jones Evans as second Lieutenant.

61. March 21.—The like of Thomas Urwick, gent., as second Lieutenant.

64. April 5.—Approving of W. O. Smith, gent., and Humphrey Jones Evans being first Lieutenants.

65. June 23.—The like of Matthew Evan Lewis, gent., being second Lieutenant.

66. June 25.—The like of John Glynne Mytton, Esq., to be Captain, *vice* Captain Williams, whose resignation was accepted.

73. Nov. 3, 1830.—King's warrant to Lord-Lieutenant to sign Commissions.

75. Jan. 5, 1832.—Approving of appointments of William Jones, gent., and Charles Henry Garrett, gent., being second Lieutenants.

76. March 27.—Militia not to be trained this year.

78. Sept. 12.—Approving of Lieutenant M. E. Lewis being appointed Captain.

79. April 30, 1833.—From Home Secretary that training dispensed with this year, and that Her Majesty had directed militia corps to be numbered by drawing of lots, to determine their precedency, and that a drawing of lots having taken place in presence of Her Majesty, No. 57 was drawn for the Montgomeryshire Regiment of Militia.

83. Jan. 1, 1834.—Approving of Richard Corbett, gent., being appointed second Lieutenant.

86. April 9, 1835.—Militia not to be trained this year.

88. Jan. 7, 1836.—Directing surplus arms to be conveyed to Chester Castle; sufficiency to be retained for use of one half of the strength of the staff.

89. Jan. 18.—Approving of escort of arms to Chester; twenty stand of arms additional to be retained.

94. Feb. 15.—Giving regulations as to reduction of staff, which was to be reduced and kept at one half.

103. Aug. 22.—Approving of James Turner being appointed second Lieutenant.

104. Sept. 3.—Letter from Home Secretary (Lord J. Russell)—

> "That the King has been pleased to command that the uniform of the Officers of the Militia of the United Kingdom shall be in future laced in silver; and that the officers of such regiments as are royal shall wear, by way of distinction, silver embroidery instead of lace."

and requiring the command to be circulated.

. May 8, 1837.—Inquiring if command in letter of Sept. 3 had been complied with.

116. May 2, 1839.—Order for return of militia officers.

. May 9.—Applying for information.

121. Oct. 30, 1840.—Accepting the resignation of Ensign Charles Garratt.

132. Dec. 16, 1845.—Giving the Queen's approval of the Lord-Lieutenant assuming the command of the Montgomeryshire Militia.

A GRANT OF THE LORDSHIP OF CYFEILIOG,

MADE UNTO

JOHN PUGH, ESQ., *of Mathafarn, in the Sixteenth Year of the Reign of* KING CHARLES THE SECOND, *and in the Year* 1664.

THE KING To all to whom these Presents shall come Greeting Know yee that we in consideration of the Good faithfull and Acceptable service performed unto us and to our most dear Father by Rowland Pugh of Mathaferne in our County of Montgomery Esquire and John Pugh Esqr., Son and Heir of the said Rowland And for diverse other good causes and Considerations Us to these Presents especially moving of our especial Grace certain knowledge and mere motion we have given granted and confirmed and by these presents for us our Heirs and Successors we do give grant and confirm unto the said John Pugh his Heirs and Assigns for ever All that the Manor or Lordship of Kevilliock in our County of Montgomery with all and singular its Rights Members and Appurtenances whatsoever And all our Lands Tenements Rents and Hereditaments whatsoever in the aforesaid County of Montgomery called or known by the Name or Names of the Lordship and Manor of Kevilliock And all and singular Messuages Mills Pastures Woods Underwoods Hereditaments Revenues and Services Mines of Lead Tin and Iron Quarries Court Leets and view of Frankpledge Courts Liberties Franchises Jurisdictions Issues ffines Amerciaments waters Watercourses weares Banks Pools of standing water runing waters ffishings profits Commodities Emoluments and all other Hereditaments whatsoever at any time heretofore accepted reputed esteemed or known as part parcel or member of the said manor heretofore demised granted or Occupied And all that parcel of Ground called Frith-Kevener-theg with all its rights members and Appurtenances whatsoever in the Parish of Kemes in the said County of Montgomery containing by estimation eighty Acres late in the Tenure or occupation of Edeuevint ap Griff' or his assigns by a particular thereof mentioned to be of the Yearly

Rent or value of Ten Shillings And all that meadow called Frith Dovelwerne al's Dolwerern with the Appurtenances in the parish of Llanbrinemair and Darowen or either of them in the said County containing by Estimation Twelve hundred Acres late in the Tenure or Occupation of John ap Hugh ap Ieu'n and of their Tenants And all those four Tenements and certain Mills being upon the same Premises with their Appurtenances by a particular thereof mentioned to be of the yearly rent or value of Forty shillings And all that Pool of standing water or Lake called Llynn-mawr in the aforesaid County of Montgomery containing by estimation two Hundred and forty Roods of Land in length and one hundred and Twenty Roods of Land in breadth with the Appurtenances by a particular thereof mentioned to be of the Yearly Rent or value of Twelve pence All which premises were heretofore Parcel of the Possessions of the principality of Wales annexed and late parcel of the Possessions of Robert Earl of Licester; We have also given and granted and for us our Heirs and Successors we do give and grant unto the aforesaid John Pugh his Heirs and Assigns All and singular Messuages Mills Houses buildings Barns Stables Dovehouses Garth Orchards Gardens Lands Meadows Feedings pastures Demesne Lands Glebe Lands ffriths Mountains Lands Heaths bruary Moors Marshes woods underwoods and Trees and the Lands Ground and soil of the same woods underwoods and Trees fruits profits waters watercourses pools of standing water water conduits lakes of waters ffisherys ffishings suit Soke Mulcture Forrests Chases Warrens Mines of Lead Tin and Iron Quarries rents revenues and Services rents charge rents seck rents and services as well of free as Customary Tennants works of Tenants ffarms fee farms Annuities Escheats Reliefs Heriotts Forfeitures of all and all manner of Recognizances by or before any of the Justices of us our Heirs or Successors or in any the Courts or Sessions of us our Heirs and Successors fines Amerciaments Courts Court Leet view of fflankpledge and profits of Courts and Leets and all things which to Court Leet view of Frankpledge doth appertain Mises tallages and profits of Tenants of the Manor and Lordship aforesaid chattels waifs Estrays Infangthef outfangthef Treasure trove Deodands Bondmen Bondwomen and villains with their followers Estrovers and Commons of Estrovers Fairs markets Toll wreck of sea Duties Customs and out Customs Rights Jurisdictions ffranchises Liberties priviledges profits Comodities Advantages Emoluments and Hereditaments whatsoever with all their rights Members and Appurtenances of whatsoever kind Nature

or species they may be or by whatsoever Names they are called known reputed or esteemed situate lying and being coming raising renewing or happening within the County Lordship Manor Towns fields places Parishes or Hamlets aforesaid or in or within any of them or within any liberty or Corporation or within the meets bounds or limitts of the aforesaid Lordship Manor Messuages Lands Tenements or Hereditaments and other the Premises above mentioned by these Presents to be before granted or mentioned to be granted or any or either of them or elsewhere wheresoever be the said Manors Lands Tenements and Hereditaments and other the Premises above mentioned to be granted or any or either of them or to any part or parcel thereof in any manner belonging incident Appendant or incumbent or as members parts or parcels of the aforesaid Manor Lordship Messuages Lands Tenements and Hereditaments and other the Premises above by these presents Granted or mentioned to be granted or of any or either of them heretofore had known Accepted used occupied reputed or being And the Reversion and Reversions Remainder and Remainders whatsoever of the aforesaid Manor Lordship Messuages Lands Tenements and Hereditaments and of other the Premises above by these presents granted or mentioned to be Granted and of every part and parcel thereof dependant or expectant of in or upon any Lease Grant or Feoffment Leases Grants or ffeoffments for the term or terms of life lives or years or otherwise in any manner made of the Premises being of Record or not of Record And moreover of our more a'ple Grace certain Knowledge and mere motion we will and by these Presents for us our Heirs and Successors we do grant unto the said John Pugh his Heirs and Assigns that he the aforesaid John Pugh his heirs and Assigns for ever hereafter shall and may have hold and enjoy and shall and may be able to have hold and enjoy within the aforesaid Manor Lordship Messuages Lands Tenements Hereditaments and all and singular the premises above by these Presents before Granted and within every parcel thereof such so many the same and like Courts of Record Courts pleas and Recognizances pleas powers of holding plea Courts Court Leet View of ffrankpledge Lawdays Assise and Assay of Bread Wine and Beer Chattels Waifs Estrays Chattalls of fellons and convict or Attainted and of ffelons of themselves and put in exgent or outlawed Deodands Escheates reliefs Herriots Forrests parks Chases free warrens having hunting and all other Rights Jurisdictions Liberties ffranchises Customs Mizes tallages privileges profits Advantages Emoluments and Hereditaments

whatsoever as and as fully freely and wholly and in as ample manner and form as the aforesaid Robert Earl of Leicester or any Earl of March or any other Person or persons the Manor Lordship Messuages Lands Tenements and other the premises above by these Presents granted or mentioned to be Granted any parcel thereof had possessed or was seized thereof or ought to have had held used or enjoyed in the Premises above by these Presents granted or mentioned to be Granted or any parcel thereof by reason or pretence of any Charter Gift Grant or Confirmation by us or any of our Progenitors or Ancestors late Kings or Queens of England heretofore had made granted or Confirmed or by reason or pretence of any Act or Acts of parliament or of any lawful prescription Use or Custom heretofore had or used or otherwise in whatsoever lawful manner right or title and as fully freely and intirely and in as ample manner and form as we or any of our Progenitors and Ancestors late Kings and Queens of England aforesaid had or ought to have had held and enjoyed the aforesaid Manor Lordship Messuages Lands Tenements Hereditaments and other the premises above by these Presents before Granted or mentioned to be Granted or every or any parcel thereof. Moreover we give and by these presents for us our Heirs and Successors we do grant unto the said John Pugh his Heirs and Assigns all and singular the Manor Messuages Lands Tenements and Hereditaments and other the Premises by these presents before Granted or mentioned to be Granted and every parcel thereof with their Appurtenances whatsoever as fully freely and intirely and in as ample manner and form as all and singular the Premises or any parcel thereof come or ought to have come to our Hands or to the Hands of any of our Progenitors or Predecessors late Kings or Queens of England by reason or pretence of any Act of parliament or of any Acts of Parliament or by reason of any Exchange or purchase or of any Gift or Grant or of any Attainder or Forfeiture or by reason of Eccheat or by whatsoever other lawful manner Right or Title they now should or ought to remain and be in our Hands Except Nevertheless and out of this our present Grant always reserved All Knights ffees wards marriages and all Advowsons Donations free dispositions and rights of Patronage of all and singular Rectorys Churches Chappells and other ecclesiastical benefices whatsoever to the Premises or to any parcel thereof in any manner belonging incident Appendant or incumbent And except all Royal mines within or upon the premises being or to be found and all Prerogatives to the same Mines belonging All which premises by

Letters patents of our most dear Father Charles late King of England (of blessed memory) deceased bearing date the second day of July in the fifth Year of his Reign were granted or mentioned to be Granted (amongst other things) unto Sir Thomas Middleton Knight his Heirs and Assigns under the Yearly rent of One hundred and forty-three pounds and one penny of lawful Money of England To have hold and enjoy the aforesaid Manor Lordship Messuages Lands Tenements Meadows ffeedings pastures Woods Underwoods Court Leet View of Frankpledge profits Commodities Liberties Advantages Emoluments Hereditaments and all and singular other the Premises above by these Presents before Granted or mentioned to be Granted with their Rights Members and Appurtenances whatsoever (Except before excepted) unto the aforesaid John Pugh his Heirs and Assigns to the only proper use and behoof of the said John Pugh his Heirs and Assigns for ever To hold the aforesaid Manor Lordship Messuages Lands Tenements and Hereditaments and all and singular other the premises above by these Presents mentioned to be Granted of us our Heirs and Assigns as of our Manor of East Greenwich in our County of Kent by fealty only in free and Common soccage and not in Chief nor by Knights service rendering and paying unto us our Heirs and Successors the aforesaid Yearly rent of One hundred and Forty-three pounds and one penny at the several days and in such manner and form as the same Yearly rent in and by the Letters patent aforesaid is reserved and mentioned to be reserved and to be paid And Moreover we will and by these Presents for us our Heirs and successors We do Grant unto the said John Pugh his Heirs and Assigns that these our Letters patents or the enrollment of them and by all things firm good valid sufficient and effectual in the Law for and against us our Heirs and Successors in all our Courts as elsewhere within our Kingdom of England without any Confirmations Licences or Tollerations from us our Heirs or successors to be had or obtained Notwithstanding the ill-naming and not naming ill reciting or not reciting the aforesaid Manor Lordship Messuages Lands Tenements Hereditaments and other the premises by these presents above Granted or mentioned to be Granted or any part or parcel thereof and Notwithstanding the not finding or not right finding any Office or Offices Inquisition or Inquisitions of the premises or of any part or parcel thereof by which our title ought to be found before the making of these our Letters Patent And Notwithstanding any defect or defects in not or ill reciting

any Lease or Grant Leases or grant Gift Feoffment or Feoffments of or concerning the premises or of or concerning any part or parcel thereof or any profits thereof heretofore made being of Record or not of Record And Notwithstanding the ill or not right naming or not naming any Town Hamlett place parish or County in which the premises or any parcel thereof do lye And Notwithstanding any defect or defects in the ill, or not naming of any Tenant farmer or Occupier of the Premises or of any parcel thereof And Notwithstanding any variation disagreement or difference in any thing matter or form between these Letters patent and any particular or Survey or Contract aforesaid of the Premises or of any parcel thereof heretofore made or between these our Letters patent and any other Letters patent heretofore made of the Premises or of any parcel thereof And between these our Letters patent and any Record or Records Account or Accounts the premises aforesaid or any part or parcel thereof in any manner touching or concerning and notwithstanding any defect or defects in not mentioning or not rightly or ill mentioning the true Yearly value of the Premises or any parcel thereof or the true Yearly rent reserved of in or upon the Premises or any parcel thereof specified in any particular Survey or Account heretofore made or hereafter to be made of the Premises or any of them And Notwithstanding that the same Premises or any profits thereof were of better or Greatly yearly value than is set forth in these our Letters patent or in any particular of the Premises And Notwithstanding the Statute made and enacted in the parliament in the Eighteenth Year of the Reign of King Henry the sixth And Notwithstanding the statute made and enacted in the first Year of the Reign of King Henry the fourth And Notwithstanding any other defect in the not naming or not rightly naming of the Nature Kind Species Quantity or Quality of the premises or of any parcel thereof or any person or persons who heretofore were seized of the Premises or of any of them or any state tyle [*sic*] heretofore made to us or to any of our progenitors or Ancestors or any Indenture or anexation heretofore made by our Grandfather or any other of our progenitors or Ancestors late Kings or Queens of England or any Covenant Agreement or Grant concerning the same or any part thereof to the Contrary of the Premises in any thing Notwithstanding Notwithstanding express mention etc. In witness etc. Witness the King at Westminster the first day of March

By writ of privy Seal

FOLK-LORE, SUPERSTITIONS, OR WHAT-NOT, IN MONTGOMERYSHIRE AND ELSEWHERE.

By ELIAS OWEN, M.A.

The Welsh are staunch observers of the Day of Rest. The ploughboy's whistle, which cheers the laggard horses along, is never heard of a Sunday. The dales re-echo his not unpleasant never-ceasing voice on every day but the Lord's Day. The milkmaid's clear voice calling the cattle home is silent on Sunday. On other days it resounds far and near, but on this, the seventh day, it is hushed. Every sound is subdued on Sunday. The little folks' merry voices, as they play their little games that have descended to them from remote ages, are not heard on this day. The holy quiet of the day is felt by man and beast. The bee takes advantage of this day's peaceful rest to leave her over-crowded home. The timid rabbit becomes bold on Sunday, and the horse in the field will only lazily gaze at an intruder and go on with his all-important work of grazing. He evidently knows it is a day of rest for him. The people wear their best clothes, and eat their best dinner on Sunday. Men and women and children have the influence of the day upon them. They quarrel not on Sunday, neither do they work on Sunday. The men commenced their Sabbath on the previous evening by shaving; and so did the women by carrying water, cleaning potatoes, and preparing food on Saturday evening for the Sabbath. At one time or other in the day, but chiefly in the afternoon and evening, all the men, women and children frequent some place of worship. It is considered to be a sin to break the Sabbath

day. A week badly commenced is expected to go on badly and end badly. We in Wales reverence the Lord's Day. It is not to be wondered at if the conscience punishes the breaker of the Sabbath. But there have been instances of men who have done so, and they have been punished for their temerity. I will give a couple of instances of this.

A Sabbath Breaker's Punishment.—It was usual some years ago for Welsh labourers to go to the harvest in England, and after that was finished to come home in time for their own harvest. These migratory Welsh harvestmen are not altogether non-existent in our days, but about forty years ago they were much more common than they are at present. Then, respectable farmers' sons and others in a neighbourhood went in companies to the English lowlands, with their sickles on their backs, and well-filled wallets over their shoulders, which when they returned home were filled with delicious apples. The writer has often seen these reapers go from and return home. In agreement with this custom, William Davies, Penrhiw, near Aberystwith, went to England with his companions, and after having worked there about three weeks he returned home alone, and made all possible haste to reach his step-father's house in time to begin his harvest. This he knew was to commence on the following Monday; but he had not reached his home on Saturday, so he determined to travel on Sunday, and then he should be, he thought, at home on Sunday evening; and, after a night's rest, fit for reaping on the following day. His conscience, though, was not at rest, but his scruples he silenced by saying that he had no clothes to go to a place of worship, and that it could make no great difference if he travelled only once on the Sunday. Having satisfied his silent monitor, he got up betimes on Sunday and walked rapidly homewards. By Sunday evening he had reached the hill overlooking Llanfihangel Creuddyn, where he was well-known, so he determined not to enter the village until after the people

had gone to church or chapel; he therefore sat down and contemplated the scene below. He saw the people wending their way from all directions to their respective places of worship; the church-bell has ceased, the singing reaches his ears, and now he thinks he can venture to descend the hill and pass through the village unobserved. Very stealthily he approaches the village, and very guilty does he feel as he nears the hamlet; luckily no one has observed him, and he has now passed through the village, and entered into a barley-field, and although still uneasy in mind he feels somewhat reassured, and steps on quickly. He had not proceeded far in the barley-field before he found himself surrounded by a large number of small pigs. He was not very much struck by this, though he thought it strange that so many pigs should be allowed to wander about on the Sabbath day. They, however, only stared and grunted at him, and then scampered away with all their might. He had not gone out of the barley-field, before an innumerable number of mice entirely surrounded him, and these again merely stared at the guilty man, and then suddenly disappeared. By this, he began to be frightened, and he was very sorry that he had ever commenced his Sunday journey; but he was now not far from home, so he put on a bold appearance, and proceeded with all haste homewards; but his troubles were not yet nearly finished. He had not gone far from the spot where the mice appeared before he observed a large greyhound walking before him on the pathway; he saw the dog distinctly, and watched it anxiously. There was no one with the dog, that was plain; he never took his eyes from the dog, but suddenly it vanished out of his sight. By this Davies was thoroughly frightened, and many and sincere were his regrets that he had broken the Sabbath; but on he went. He passed through the village of Llanilar without any further fright. He had, by this, gone about three miles from Llanfihangel, along the road that goes to Aberystwith, and he now felt strong again, but to his

horror he saw something approach him that made his hair stand on end. He could not make out at first what it was; but it came dashing along, and he jumped aside to let a white headless horse pass him. His limbs shook, and his perspiration was like a shower of rain. This spectre he saw when he was close to Tan'rallt, but he dared not turn into the house, for he was travelling on Sunday; so on he went again, and wishing himself safe at home, trembling, he proceeded along the short distance that was between him and Penrhiw, his home; but this short distance he was not permitted to travel without another horrible vision. About a quarter of a mile from Tan'rallt, the most direct way to Penrhiw was along a pathway that turned to the left from the main road. Up this road Davies went, and at last he was within sight of home, and so he made for the boundary fence between Tan'rallt farm and Penrhiw farm—he knew there was a gap that he could pass, and for this gap he aimed; he reached it, but further progress was impossible, for in the gap was a lady lying at full length and immovable, and stopping up the gap entirely. Poor Davies was now more thoroughly terrified, if possible, than he had hitherto been. He sprang aside, he screamed, and then he fainted, and as soon as he recovered consciousness, he on his knees prayed for forgiveness of his sin, and this he did in a loud voice. His mother and father-in-law heard him, and the mother knew the voice, and said "It is my Will; some mishap has overtaken him." They went to him, and found him so weak that he could not move, and they were obliged to assist him home.

This tale was told me by a clerical friend who knew William Davies intimately, and he heard it from Davies' own mouth, and Davies ever believed that all that he had that day seen was a punishment for breaking the Fourth Commandment. My friend often argued the matter with him, and tried to persuade him that he had seen nothing, but that it was his imagination working on a nervous temperament that created all these

fantasies, but he failed to convince him. Davies ever afterwards was a consistent observer of the Sabbath day.

Nutting on Sunday.—Richard Roberts, Coedereill, Bylchau, a few miles from Denbigh, when a young man worked in Flintshire. One fine Sunday in autumn he determined to go a nutting. He came to a wood where nuts abounded, and soon he got his pockets filled. He saw one bush covered with nuts, he went up to it, and stretched out his hand to draw a certain branch to him, when he observed a hairy hand stretching towards the same branch. As soon as he saw this hand he became frightened, and without turning back he took to his heels, and never afterwards did he venture to go a nutting on a Sunday.

This tale was told me by Mr. Jones, Rector of Bylchau, and he received it from Roberts himself. Mr. Jones tried to convince his informant that a monkey was in the bush, but Roberts affirmed that it was the evil spirit that had come to him.

So much upon this subject. I will now give a few tales of a different kind.

In the spring of 1882, or rather at that time of the year when spring embraces the summer, I was staying at the Rectory of Llangadfan. The Rector, the Rev. G. Edwards, has already enriched the pages of the *Powys-land Collections* with the history of the parishes of Garthbeibio and Llangadfan, and he is about to do the same service for Llanerfyl, the notes, etc., of the late Rector of that parish having been entrusted to Mr. Edwards by Mrs. McIntosh. We stood outside the rectory facing Llanerfyl, when the Rector pointed out to me a farm-house where a horrible murder is said to have taken place ; and pointing down the valley in the direction of Llanerfyl, he shewed me the spot, or endeavoured to shew me the spot, where the sister of the murdered man lived. This tale will appear I have no doubt from the accurate pen of Mr. Edwards when he writes the "History of Llanerfyl", and I will only

give its main points from memory. The tale is as follows.

A Son murdered by his Father.—A man who lived at a farm called Caerbwla, in the parish of Llanerfyl, which farm is situated in a secluded spot not very far from Llangadfan Rectory, at the entrance of a mountain valley called Nant-yr-eira, left his home, when a young man, for foreign parts. After many years' absence he returned a rich man. Instead of going direct to his father's house, he called upon his sister, who lived in a farm called Caerbacha, a distance of some miles from Caerbwla. She did not recognise him, but he made himself known to her, after he had asked her if she had any mark by which she could recognise her missing brother, and upon her mentioning a black spot on his arm, he shewed her the mark on his own arm; and he informed her that he intended going home to the old people that night, but that he would not reveal himself to them, but would feign he was a traveller, and that she was to come the next morning by breakfast time to their home, and that then they would together have the pleasure of surprising their parents. He went to Caerbwla; his parents did not identify him; he obtained a lodging for the night; he was observed to be rich; and that night he was murdered, and his body hidden by his own father and mother. The next morning his sister came to the house, and asked if any stranger had been there; she was answered in the negative, but she said, "Yes, yes, my brother was here; and I saw the black spot on his arm." Struck with remorse, they confessed their deed, and going to the body discovered from the mark that they had indeed taken the life of their son away. Both committed suicide, and the daughter became mad.

Such is the substance of his sad tale. The house where the tragedy occurred was ever afterwards supposed to be haunted, but the spirit was laid under a solitary tree not far from the house, and there it is to rest until the brook that runs down Nant-yr-eira has

swept the tree away. This is not likely to be for many long years, but the brook is said to be approaching the tree. With this latter part of the tale I have not much to do, but it is worth recording, for it accords with the popular superstition that spirits are laid.

I was very much struck with the circumstances connected with this sad tale, and I repeated it to the Rev. D. James, Rector of Garthbeibio, who immediately said that he remembered a song called "Cân y Blotyn Du", or *The Black Spot Song*, which was sung in fairs when he was a lad. Following the hint thus given me by Mr. James, I ultimately, through the kindness of the Rev. James Jones, Rector of Gwaenysgor, near Rhyl, and by the courtesy of the Rev. D. Morgan, Vicar of Penrhyn Deudraeth, who has a rich collection of Welsh songs, obtained a copy of this song. The song differs in several particulars from the tale now given, but evidently both had a common origin. I will now give this song in the original.

"Can Y Blotyn Du.

"Grandewch y stori greulon,
Fu gynt yn ngwlad y Saeson,
Ger llaw i gaerau pentref Caer,
O fewn i Gornwal tirion.

"Hen wr oedd yno'n tario,
A'i blant o'i ddeutu'n bordro,
A'i fab hynaf yn ddiwad,
A'i furiad ar drafaelio.

"I'r mor fe fynai fentro,
Yn brentis ca'dd ei rwymo,
Dros saith *mlynedd* efo'r '*Black Prince*,'
Nis gwyddai ei ffrins oddi wrtho.

"Bu hefyd dri saith gaua'
Ar gost y Twrc a'r India,
Yn speilio'r gwyr a'u taflu'r mor,
'Nol dwyn eu trysor pena'

"Ca'dd dywydd drwg anniddan
Daeth gwynt yn groes i'w amcan,
Fe chwythai'r llong mewn cyflawn *sail*
I'r lan i Gornwal hafan.

"I dŷ ei chwaer fe gerddai,
F'el d'eithr fe ofynai,
'A oes trafaeliwr i chwi'n frawd?
A ydyw'n ddiwawd gartre?'

"'Mae i mi frawd, gobeithio,
A'i fwriad ar drafaelio,
Ac ar ei fraich mae *Blotyn Du*,
Nis gwn be ddarfu iddo.'

"'Fi yw'r trafaeliw'r caled,
Ar *Blotyn Du* sy' i'w weled;
Pa sut mae hynt fy mam a'm tad?
Pa sut mae'n stat yn 'styried?'

"'Mae'r 'stat yn ddifai ddigon,
Pob rhodd sy'n rhwym a graslon,
Ond ei bod wedi myn'd ar feth,
Ac arni beth dyledion.'

"Dywedoedd yntau, 'ymröaf
I wneud pob brys a gallaf;
Bore foru codi'n llon,
A'i holl ddyledion talaf.'

"I dy ei dad fe gerddai,
Fel d'eithr fe lettyai,
Fe ro'i gôd i wraig y ty
I'w chadw hyd y bore.

"Gwr a wraig dywedai'n isel,
'Ni gawsom hyn mewn gafael;
Mae genym ddigon ar ein tro,
Os gallwn ni fwrdro'n ddiogel.'

"Y mab oe'n cysgu'n gywrain,
A'r gyllell lem hwy lladden,
A'i fam ei hun mewn purion bwyll,
Yn dal y ganwyll weren.

"I'r daflod wair hwy taflen'
Ac yno hwy gadawen,
Nes caent hwy le mewn ddirgel fan,
Roi 'i ddwyrudd dan ddaearen.

"Ei chwaer ddoe yno'n foreu,
A phob ryw fath o foethau,
I roeso ei hanwyl frawd i'r wlad,—
Am dano i'w thad gofynai.

"'Pwy frawd wyt ti'n ymofyn?
Nis bu yma neithiwr undyn';
'O do yn wir, na wadwch ddim,
Dangosodd i mi'r *Blotyn*.'

"Dechreuai'r hen wr dyngu—
'Pwy felldith a ddaeth imi?
Os lleddais i fy mab fy hun,
Dof finai i'r un dihenydd.'

"Yr hen wraig hithau dd'wedai,
'Os fi fu'n dala'r goleu,
'E gaiff y gyllell yn ai llid,
Wneud fy nihenydd ineu.'

"Fe welai'r ferch dair celain,
Nis gall'sai fod yn llawen;
A aeth maes o'i chof, a felly fu,
Nes rhowd hi tan ddaearen.
Diwedd."

The following is the substance of this song. It begins by calling the attention of the hearer to the cruel story that took place in the Saxon's country, near the walls of Caer, in the pleasant country of Cornwall. So the scene is not laid in Wales, but in Cornwall, and the actors are not Welsh. The second stanza depicts an old man with his children about him, and the eldest son with his mind set upon travelling. The next verse follows the son, who is apprenticed for seven years on board the *Black Prince*, but his friends hear nothing from him; then we are told that for "three seven winters" this son, to the cost of the Turk and Indian, becomes a pirate, and that after robbing his victims, it was his habit to cast them into the sea.

Between the first and the fifth stanzas twenty-eight years seem to have gone by, and then we are told that his vessel in a terrible storm is driven, with sails spread, upon the shores of Cornwall—that he walks to his sister's house, and, pretending to be a stranger, asks her if she has a brother who is a traveller. Her answer is—"Yes, I hope I have a brother whose mind is set upon travelling, and on his arm he has a *black spot*, but I know not what has become of him." He answers, "I am

that hard-hearted traveller, and the black spot is to be seen, but how are my mother and father, and in what condition is the estate?" He is told that the farm is quite large enough to support the old people, but that every gift was acceptable, and that there was a small debt on the property. He answers, that he will make haste to satisfy all demands, and that the next morning he would get up early and pay off the debts.

Then we are told that he goes to his father's house and asks, as a stranger, for a lodging; he gives his purse to his mother to keep until the morning.

Now comes the shocking deed; the old couple, speaking in whispers, say that in that purse there is enough for all their wants if they could only commit the murder safely. We are next told that the son is sleeping soundly, with a keen knife he is murdered, his mother holding the candle while the foul act is being done. They carry the corpse to the hayloft, and there hide him until they can make a grave secretly wherein to bury the body. The next morning the daughter arrives, laden with dainties to welcome home her long lost brother, and speaking to her father, she inquires after him—

"'Where is my brother dear?' said she;
'Oh where, oh where is he?'
'A brother of thine we have not seen,
For here has no one been.'

"'Oh yes, oh yes,' she crying said,
'I know he here has been,
And on his arm I saw the spot
That oft when young I've seen.'

"'Then have I slain my own dear son!
A curse then rest on me,
For that same arm that murdered him
Shall also murder me.'

"The mother, too, now crying said,
'I held the light whilst he
Was murdered with that shocking knife,
That now shall murder me.'

"The sister saw three bodies lie,
All smeared with clotted gore,
And at the sight her reason went,
And ne'er returnèd more."

The language of the Welsh song is that of South Wales, and not, I believe, that which is spoken in or about Llanerfyl, where the scene of the tragedy is placed according to local tradition. It will be observed that the song places the scene in Cornwall and not in Wales. It would be worth while ascertaining whether such an event actually took place in Cornwall, or whether the poet transferred the scene from patriotic motives. The song is not old, but sufficiently so to make the obtaining of the information it contains from such a distance as Cornwall a matter of some difficulty.

With one or two remarks I leave the song. There are in it bits of true poetry. Its very abruptness is strikingly suggestive. Wherever the event took place, the poet describes the customs and habits of Wales—but I am unable to say whether these are also common to Cornwall. Upon a review of the case I am inclined to believe that the event and its description belong to Wales; but I have no doubt that the historian of Llanerfyl and the neighbouring parishes will investigate the matter, and we shall hear more about the song and its burden when the Rev. G. Edwards writes the history of Llanerfyl parish.

Since the last tale was about the return of an unfortunate wanderer, I will now give the history of one whose fortunate return brought happiness with it.

A Kidnapped Husband's Return.—In a quiet secluded glen, about five miles from the sea, stands an ancient *plas*, which shall be called the Glyn. The mountains rise abruptly along the sides of the narrow valley at the extremity of which the Glyn is situated, and the mountain tops are, as far as the eye can see, bare and dreary. At one time they were covered with a forest that stretched from Snowdon to Chester, but at present hills and valleys are both alike denuded of trees. Here and there, it is true, in the immediate neighbourhood of a gentleman's seat, there still are a few giant oaks, and by the Glyn a few solitary ancestral oaks are left standing, to beautify the scenery, and to

show that the possessor of that estate has an ancestry whose origin dates from olden times. Without attempting to describe fully the *plas*, it may be stated that the structure stands at the bottom of the valley, and the glimpse of the distant hills from the portico is very pleasing, while the park, and lake, and clumps of trees, and solitary oaks, add to the beauty of its situation.

The paintings in the Glyn are numerous and valuable, but the most interesting are certainly the portraits of the family. Mr. Glyn, the representative of an old Welsh family, can point to the various portraits on his walls, and tell you how they are related to him. In the dining-hall there is a painting of a pretty chubby boy enjoying himself with his playthings. That rosy-faced child was my host some seventy years ago. In the same room is a painting of Mr. Glyn when he was a strikingly handsome young man. I could not help glancing from the child to the man and from the man to my host. Time had changed them so effectually that they were to me different beings; but still Mr. Glyn in old age retains the well-chiseled face that he possessed as a young man, and he is a gentleman in voice, mien, and person. Mrs. Glyn is among the paintings. She, too, is changed. That handsome young lady with the turban on her head was my hostess years ago, just after her marriage with Mr. Glyn. That handsome, but serious-looking young man was a son who died fighting for his country. But why should all these who have passed over to the great majority be mentioned? I will let them be ever wistfully looking down upon those who occupy the seats they once filled, but I must mention two paintings—they are a lady and a gentleman. Apparently they are about thirty years of age. Upon a remark with reference to these, Mrs. Glyn told me that there was a romantic tale about them. The particulars thereof, in course of conversation with Mrs. Glyn, I obtained. They are as follows.

The gentleman and lady were ancestors of my host. The lady was the heiress of the estate. She was the admired of many, but her cousin, Ivor Glyn, won her

heart. Ivor and Gladys were married. The bride was only seventeen, and the bridegroom had just obtained his majority, when they were united. At the church door the bridal party was attacked by a disguised band of ruffians, who tore the bridegroom from the embraces of his distracted wife, and carried him away in the direction of the sea. The spectators, terror-stricken, dared not attempt a rescue ; but one man followed the band, and he saw a vessel riding close to the sea-shore, and into that vessel was Ivor taken, and the ship immediately set sail. This was all the news that could be obtained. The grief of the bride was intense, but she had, nevertheless, a strong presentiment that her husband would return, and her words were, "I know he will return ; my heart tells me he will." Weeks, months, and years came and went, but he came not. Still she said, "He will come back." No one believed this but the devoted wife. Seven years have passed without the lover-husband's return, nor does there any news of him reach his wife. Another seven years are placed in Time's grave, but still is Ivor absent. Suitors many solicit her hand. She listens to one : he urged that her husband must be dead—that she had waited twice seven years for his return ; that one seven years released her from her vows—that she was a widow. "You say," said Gladys, "that I am a widow, and you say truly, for I am a widow, and would you marry a widowed heart ?" "Gladys," said he, "I would marry you, though your heart were buried with Ivor." He urged his suit so well that Gladys promised to marry him if her long-lost husband returned not in twelve months. Time is heartless. The year is gone. and her husband has not returned. Once more is she led to the altar. That morning a stranger arrives at the Glyn, and desires to see Mrs. Glyn ; he is informed that Mrs. Glyn is no longer Mrs. Glyn, for that she was married that morning to Mr. Wynn, and that the wedding party was then seated at breakfast. The stranger sees the harpists seated. He takes the place of one of them. Tune after tune he plays. The wedding party praise his

skill. The lady gets up from table, and in the harpist she sees her lost lover. She again takes her place, and by-and-by she said she wanted to ask the company a question. It was this:—"If one has two favourites, an old and a new one, which should be retained, the old or the new?" They all answered, "The old." "And what do you say?" said she, turning to her husband. "The old," said he. "Then," said she, "I have found my long-lost husband, and he is still my husband," and with that she rushed to her Ivor, and embracing him, sobbing, said, "I knew he would return; my heart told me he would return!"

In Scotland the belief in second-sight was once common. This power is not unknown in Wales. Some persons had the gift of seeing events before they came to pass in Wales as well as in Scotland. The great novelist, Sir Walter Scott, gives in one of his novels, a thrilling instance of this foresight. Speaking to Mrs. Morris, Cwm Rectory, near Rhyl, about this gift of second sight, she told me the following strange tales bearing thereon.

Vision of men killed.—A man who kept the lodge of Dowlais works, where puddlers and others were employed, stated one morning, that he had opened the gates for seven dead men to be carried through during the night. He was told that that could not have been the case, for no one had been killed in the works the night before. He positively affirmed that he had done so, and said though they had not been killed the night before that they were to be killed. He was questioned by the people to whom he told his vision as to the identity of the parties killed. He said they were not puddlers, nor workers in the yard, but that they were strangers whom he did not know. The managers heard of the rumour and sent for the yard-keeper, and asked him how he dared frighten the workmen with his silly tales. But he repeated what he had seen, and maintained the truth of his statement. He was informed that he must either

withdraw his story or leave the works at once. He affirmed that what he had said was the truth, and that he could not withdraw anything that he had said. He was, therefore, dismissed. A while afterwards, a number of men, masons and others, were engaged in repairing certain boilers, when one of the boilers burst and seven of these outside hands were killed, and they were carried through the gate as foretold by the discharged yard-keeper. After the event the man was replaced as doorkeeper. This was in Sir John Guest's works. Mrs. Morris knew the man, and her father was the means of dismissing and replacing him.

I will give another instance of this second-sight which I am indebted for to the same lady.

Man with Second-sight.—A man at Cyfartha Works was in the habit of seeing things of importance, such as a death in the pits or on the works, before they occurred. One day he told the people that he had seen a dead man carrried out of the Works on a white horse. As there were several white horses in the pits at work, the friends of those that followed those horses were most anxious to know whether the dead man was one of their friends. One woman in particular was greatly distressed, for her son had the care of a white horse in the pits. The man told her it was not her son that he had seen killed. To all other inquiries he gave no answer. In a short time, what he had seen actually took place.

Mr. Morris, overseer at Cyfartha Works, was incredulous, and thought the man an impostor, but the answer to all Mr. Morris's doubts with reference to certain events was, invariably, "Yes, indeed master, I saw it."

Akin to this second-sight is the seeing of funeral processions, etc. I will give one strange tale that was firmly believed in by the parties who saw, or imagined they saw, the apparition. The Rev. D. Richards, curate of Llanllechid, Carnarvonshire, repeated it to me. Here it is.

Apparition of a Coffin.—Mr. Richards' grandfather —his mother's father,—his grandfather's brother, and another man, in fact the whole family, were seated, of an evening, around the kitchen fire, in the farm-house occupied by the grandfather. Whilst they were there, to their great surprise they heard a cart or a carriage drive up to the door, and there it stopped, and before anyone could get up to see what visitor had come to them, the kitchen door opened, and, turning round, the occupants of the kitchen saw a coffin slowly approaching the centre of the room, and that of itself. There it stayed for a while in the middle of the kitchen, and left as it came, through the door, and the vehicle was heard going away. When the frightened people came to themselves, they went to the door, and endeavoured to see whence the cart came; and where it had gone to, but no traces of wheels could be seen; in fact, a phantom cart had visited them. But strange to say, twelve months to that very day the corpse of a man was brought into the kitchen in the very manner shewn by the vision, and he was buried from the house. It may be added that Mr. Richards was told the above by his grandfather, who was one of the party that had seen the apparition.

It is not unoften that like as he did to *Tam O'Shanter*, of world-wide fame, his Satanic majesty has disturbed the equilibrium of many a poor Welshman's mind; in his visit to some he has not even taken the poor old mare's tail away, but to others he has been more vindictive, and there is reason to believe he has taken their souls out of their bodies.

Satan appearing to a Collier.—John Roberts, Collier's Row, Cyfartha, Merthyr, was once going to Aberdare over the mountain. On the top of the hill he was met by a handsome gentleman, who wore a three-cocked hat, a red waistcoat, and a blue coat. The appearance of this well-dressed man took John Roberts' fancy; but he could not understand why he should be on the Aberdare mountain, and furthermore, why he did not know

the way to Aberdare, for he asked Roberts the road to that town. John stared at the gentleman, and he saw clearly a cloven foot, and a long tail protruding underneath the coat of blue. He then was a passive spectator of the gentleman's transformation into a pig. The pig stood before John, and gave a big grunt, and then ran away.

With regard to this tale, I may just as well state, to remove all doubts as to its trustworthiness, that John Roberts himself believed that he had seen the Evil Spirit, and I received the narrative from a party to whom Roberts had related the same.

The Llawr-y-glyn Spirit.—Not far from Llanidloes is a small hamlet called Llawr-y-glyn, and there is a farm called—if I recollect correctly—Craig Wen, which, when I was a lad in school, was the scene of a series of visitations of an unpleasant kind, from a being who brings with him not peace. The rumours of the evil spirit's visit to this farm-house reached Llanidloes, and greatly disturbed the people. It became the talk of the town and district. The local Wesleyan minister visited the farm for the purpose of putting down the spirit. He went there with certain friends, and returning spread direful tales of the bad doings of the spirit. This roused the curiosity of many. It was said that even when the prayer-meeting, which was to put down the ghost, was being held, there was a great noise at the kitchen window, as if it were being smashed to pieces. After a while some of the frightened assembly went outside, but saw no one. It was even said that the Bible was lifted up by invisible hands from the table, and that it floated through the room; this I do not think was confirmed; but many strange things did the minister relate that had been recounted to him. It was true that bedclothes were torn into shreds; that some one, hearing a noise, had gone into one of the bedrooms, and before the door was well open, the counterpane came with a flap into his face, and, believing this was the work of the spirit, terribly

frightened, down stairs he ran. By the time others had gone into the room, there was there nothing to be seen. The best silk dress of the mistress was cut up into pieces; the dairy was greatly upset, the cream was found filled with dust, the cheese fell from the shelf into the milk; but the greatest sufferer was the mistress of the house, her dresses were all torn up, and her shawls as well. Even when people were in the house the spirit would be at work; a crash would be heard, and when anyone had acquired sufficient courage to go to the spot, some crockery-ware, or something else would be found on the ground broken, and no one could tell how it could possibly have occurred. A prayer was once being offered up by a sympathizing friend, when a great noise was heard. The prayer was abruptly ended, but the noise was caused by the falling of a big cheese upon the floor, or more correctly by the spirit's wanton sport with the cheese. These and similar tricks had been played for a long while by the spirit, when an observant man visited the place to ascertain, if possible, the cause of all this to-do. He held a conversation with the mistress, which was as follows:—

"I hear your house is troubled with a ghost?"

She answered "Yes, Sir, horrible!"

"What has the ghost done here?"

"Oh, no end of damage and mischief!"

"So I am told; but what has he really done?"

"Why, he has cut up my best clothes; my silk dress and clothes; and he often spoils the milk, and does ever so many things."

"Has he cut up anyone else's clothes but yours?"

"Now I think on it, he has torn no one's clothes but mine."

"Who first found out the ghost?"

"The servant girl first told us of him: she was going through the corn-field, when she saw a mouse running before her; she ran after the mouse, and when she was opposite the barn, the mouse stopped and laughed at her, and ran into a hole."

"Did any one see the mouse beside the servant girl?"

"No, no one else saw it but the girl; the men were working in the field, but they were too far off, the girl said, to see the mouse."

"Was the girl in the house when the clothes were cut into shreds, and when the other things took place?"

"I never thought on it before, but it was the girl that shewed me the sheets and counterpanes and my things cut up; and I don't think she was in the house either whan the noises were heard nor when the cheese fell into the milk, nor when the other things happened."

Upon inspection of the premises and the torn things, it was seen that the evil spirit must have been the girl herself. Both she and the master were from home at the time this visit was made; the wife was there and then advised to send the servant girl away, which was done, and the evil spirit went away with her.

Man supposed to have been taken by the Evil One.—W. E., of Ll—— M—— was a very bad man—he was a brawler, a fighter, a drunkard; he is said to have spat in the parson's face, and to have struck him, and beaten the parish clerk who interfered. He was believed to have sold himself to work evil, and he gloried in his shameful deeds, and many a foul deed had he been guilty of. People thought he would come to a bad end. One night he returned not home. The next day search was made for him, and his dead body was found by the brink of the river. Upon inspection of the ground it was seen that the man was foully murdered, and that a desperate struggle had taken place between him and his unknown antagonist. The battle had commenced above the Ceunant, or *Dingle*, where the body was discovered. The spot where the struggle had commenced was found. There it was seen that the man had planted his heels deep into the ground, as if to resist a superior force that was intent upon dragging him down to the river. He seemed there to have lost his footing; but a few yards lower down, his feet again were observed to have ploughed deep into the ground, and every step

taken was traceable down the declivity, to its very bottom; and proofs of a desperate and prolonged struggle were only too visible along the entire course. In one place an oak tree intercepted the way, and a bough thereof had the very bark torn off, for the wretched man had taken hold of it, and did not let go until the bark came off in his hands, and it was seen that even in death he clutched the bark. The last struggle took place close to the river, and the body was there dragged underneath the root of a tree, through a hole not big enough for a child to creep through. What was most remarkable and ominous was the fact that, although foot-prints were seen along the ground, they were all the miserable man's foot-prints. No other marks were seen. The fearful struggle must have been, it was thought, with the Evil One himself.

This murder took place in this century. My informant bought a gun that once belonged to the wretched man, who was apparently foully murdered; but the parishioners and his acquaintances believed as stated above.

It is high time to leave the horrible, and to recount something less frightful than what I have just done. I am writing this with the wind howling and threatening a storm of snow. It is a dark dismal night, somewhat such a night as Burns saw when *Tam o' Shanter* was starting home, and which he describes as follows:

> "The wind blew as 'twad blawn its last;
> The rattling show'rs rose on the blast;
> The speedy gleams the darkness swallow'd;
> Loud, deep, and lang, the thunder bellow'd;
> That night, a child might understand
> The de'il had business on his hand."

This, perhaps, has suggested the selection I have this evening made from the many tales I have collected in many a quiet parsonage and other places in various parts of North Wales. Next summer, circumstances permitting, I will add hereto; and then, influenced by cheering days and refreshing scenery, I doubt not that

my contribution will take its colouring from the season and be more cheerful and altogether less gloomy than this which I now write. But I will now proceed.

In my last contribution I alluded to the faith people in some parts of Wales placed in conjurers and spells. I will give a few instances of this. I obtained the same from the Rev. Mr. Jones, at present Rector of Bylchau, near Denbigh, but formerly vicar of Garthbeibio, in Montgomeryshire, where the events took place.

Stolen Property discovered through fear of applying to the Conjurer.—Richard Thomas, Post-office, lost a coat and waistcoat, and he suspected a certain man of having stolen them. One day, this man came to the shop, and R. T. saw him there, and speaking to his wife loud enough to be heard by the suspected person, he said that he wanted the horse to go to Llanbrynmair—Llanbrynmair was the place where the conjurer lived. He never went there, nor did he intend going; but that night the stolen property was returned, and next morning it was found on the door sill.

Another Instance of Reclaiming Stolen Property through fear of the Conjurer.—A mason engaged on the restoration of Garthbeibio church placed a trowel under a stone, but when he went to look for it, it was gone. In the evening he said that he had lost his trowel, and that some one must have stolen it. He said, too, that possibly he should be late coming to his work next morning, as he was determined to go to the conjurer at Llanbrynmair about it. The next morning he found the trowel underneath the very stone where he had placed it.

Another similar Tale.—Thirty pounds were stolen from Glan-yr-afon, Garthbeibio. The owners made it known to the household that they intended going to the conjurer to ascertain who had taken the money, but the next day the money was discovered.

The remark of the vicar commenting upon these finds was, I think, very much to the point. He said,

of course the conjurer could do nothing, but the dread of him had often a restraining influence, and it was good that the ignorant and superstitious could by any means be induced to replace what they had wrongfully appropriated.

I must plead guilty of having once practised the occult art, and with the best possible results. A poor old woman who lived close to the school in Llanidloes told me that some one had taken half-a-crown off the window sill. I asked her if she remembered who had been to her house. She thought she did. I told her I could find out the thief, and told her to get the people who had been to her house from the time the money was there to the time it was lost, at a certain time together. I went there at the time named, with a Natural History filled with cuts that I greatly prized under my arm. It was a huge book, and about the first that I had purchased with my own money. In the house I found three neighbours of the poor woman. I turned the leaves of the book, and looked as grave as a lad of seventeen could, and then I said, "You have lost half-a-crown." "Yes," she said, "from the window-sill." "Yes, I see," said I; "but never mind, it will soon be back again, and if it is not—well, I will not let you know what will happen." The money was returned.

It is not improbable that the so-called conjurers, by simple shrewdness, often detected thieves. The following tale does not badly illustrate their tactics.

A Thief discovered by a Conjurer.—A diamond ring was lost by a gentleman. He sent for a wise man. He came, and said he first of all should require an interview with all the servants. They were required to come collectively, in the first instance. He scrutinized their faces, but uttered not a word to anyone in particular; and then they were dismissed, but he said he should require them to come before him separately. They came, and he said a few words to each, and when the one he suspected came, he told him quietly to give up

the ring; that he would not inform against him; that he was to go away and bring back a glass of beer and a piece of bread and butter for him and the ring as well. The man did so, and restored the ring. The so-called conjurer next requested the master's presence, and he told him that he was fully persuaded that none of the servants had possession of the ring, but he thought he should be able to find it. This was good news to the master. The conjurer placed the ring in a lump of the bread brought to him by the thief, and, taking a walk through the premises, when he had an opportunity he threw the bread to a large turkey-cock, that gobbled it up. After this, the conjurer returned to the Hall and told the owner of the ring that he had discovered the thief at last, and that the ring would be found in the big turkey-cock. Such faith was placed in this man that the bird was killed, and to the surprise of many and the renown of the conjurer, the ring was found as predicted.

The conjurer, or as he is called in some parts of Wales, *Dyn hysbys*, a cunning or knowing man, was considered to be the antidote of witchcraft. The knowing man was appealed to to counteract the curses of the witch. The fame of these men reached far and near, as did also the dread of witches. It was well there was some influence sufficiently powerful to nullify incantations. A remedy for a curse was procured from the *dyn hysbys*, and he generally was within a reasonable walking distance from any unfortunate being who was cursed, for there were many of them in Wales. Some, however, ruled supreme in their art; and these were often visited from great distances. There was one who resided near the race-course, Oswestry, whose name is still a household word; near Llanidloes, in Llangurig, there was another; in Caermarthenshire there was another. These men were usually called doctors; thus the one in South Wales was generally known as *Doctor Cwrt y Cadno*. Many tales can be collected of these men's doings. I will give one of the South Wales celebrity.

The Curser of a Farmer's Cattle discovered.—A farmer in the parish of Llansawel, Caermarthenshire, saw that his cattle were bewitched. His wife had refused to give alms to a man's wife whose family possessed the baneful power to curse people. Knowing this, the farmer thought it would be well if he went to the *dyn hysbys* without delay. Doctor Cwrt y Cadno was consulted, and he immediately said that the animals had been cursed, and that he would expose the villain that had hurt the innocent beasts. "I will put a mark", said he, "on his forehead, and all shall know who he is." On the next Sunday, the man who had been suspected walked into the chapel with a boil on his forehead. This man was nicknamed *Jack-y-vilen* or *Jack the villain*, and it was his wife that had been sent away empty from the farmer's house. He was thus exposed to all as an evil-doer.

Many an old house in Wales was formerly troubled by the visit of a ghost, either nightly or on a certain night in the year. If only one room was subject to the ghost's appearance that room was avoided by all the inmates, and instances have been known where the room thus visited was closed up entirely. Tales of visits of ghosts to persons, until they summoned courage to speak to the disembodied spirits, and thus obtain from them the cause of their being unable to rest, are numerous. Occasionally, there does not seem a sufficient cause for this haunting of houses and re-visiting the earth by the spirits of the dead; at other times there is a reason for the re-appearance of the dead, and this often is to reveal the spot where treasures or other things have been hidden, presumably by the dead when in the flesh. The following tale, which I took down from the mouth of John Rowland, formerly of Plas-yn-llan, Efenechtyd, who knew the parties and place mentioned therein, is an instance of a spirit's appearing to point out the spot where treasures were hidden.

Ghost Appearing to point out Hidden Treasures.—

There is a farm house called Clwchdernog in the parish of Llanddeusant, Anglesey, which was formerly haunted by a spirit. It seems that no one would speak to the ghost, and that therefore he would appear and depart. But John Hughes, Bodedern, a widower, who visited the house for the purpose of securing a second Mrs. Hughes from among the servant girls, summoned courage to speak to the ghost. The presence of the ghost was indicated by a great noise in the room where Hughes and the girl were. In a great fright Hughes invoked the spirit and asked why he troubled the house. "Have I done any wrong to you?" said Hughes. The answer was, "No." Then he asked whether the girl whom he was paying his attention to was the cause of the spirit's visit. The same answer was returned. Then Hughes named individually all the inmates of the house in succession, and asked whether they had in any way disturbed the spirit. To all these questions the same answer was returned. Then he was asked why, since no one in the house had disturbed him, he should come to disturb them; and the spirit said that certain treasures were hidden on the south side of a well called Flynnon Wen, and that these treasures belonged to and were to be given up to a baby nine months old, the offspring of the family occupying Clwchdernog. The spot, where the treasure was, was minutely described, and Hughes promised to go to the place indicated. "Then," said the spirit, "if you do so, and if the child obtains the treasure, I will never disturb the house any more." The man went to the spot and found an iron chest, and the contents were kept for the baby, and never afterwards did the spirit appear.

John Rowlands, my informant, a native of those parts named in the tale, was eighty-three years old at the time that he told me the above, and that was in October 1882. John Hughes, he said, made no secret of the appearance of the spirit, and John Rowlands said that when he was in Anglesey all the people of

Llanddeusant knew of the facts that he told me. Poor old Rowlands now lies in the churchyard of Efenechtyd. He died very shortly after my conversation with him, and his daughter-in-law told me that after I had left the house he said that he had omitted a few particulars when relating the tale to me, and these he told her, and she gave them to me; but I did not think them worth noting, and so I forget what they were.

But one of the most singular tales of this kind is that which is recorded in the autobiography of the grandfather of the late Mr. Thomas Wright, the well-known Shropshire antiquary. The particulars of which are these :—

Powis Castle Ghost revealing a hidden Box to a Woman.—Mr. Wright was a Methodist, and in the early days of that body the belief in apparitions was not uncommon amongst its members. The story was told to Mr. Wright, sen., in 1780, at the house, in Yorkshire, of Miss Bosanquet (afterwards the wife of Fletcher of Madeley), by Mr. John Hampson, sen., a well-known preacher amongst the Methodists, who had just arrived from Wales. The following is the narrative :—It had been for some time reported in the neighbourhood that a poor unmarried woman, who was a member of the Methodist Society, and had become serious under their ministry, had seen and conversed with the apparition of a gentleman, who had made a strange discovery to her. Mr. Hampson being desirous to ascertain if there was any truth in the story, sent for the woman, and desired her to give him an exact relation of the whole affair from her own mouth, and as near the truth as she possibly could. She said she was a poor woman, who got her living by spinning hemp and line ; that it was customary for the farmers and gentlemen of that neighbourhood to grow a little hemp or line in a corner of their fields for their own home consumption, and as she had a good hand at spinning the materials, she used to go from house to house to inquire for work ; that her method was, where they employed her, during her stay

to have meat, and drink, and lodging (if she had occasion to sleep with them), for her work, and what they pleased to give her besides. That, among other places, she happened to call in one day at the Welsh Earl Powis's country seat, called Redcastle, to inquire for work, as she usually had done before. The quality were at this time in London, and had left the steward and his wife, with other servants, as usual, to take care of their country residence in their absence. The steward's wife set her to work, and in the evening told her that she must stay all night with them, as they had more work for her to do next day. When bedtime arrived, two or three of the servants in company, with each a lighted candle in her hand, conducted her to her lodging. They led her to a ground room, with a boarded floor, and two sash windows. The room was grandly furnished, and had a genteel bed in one corner of it. They had made her a good fire, and had placed her a chair and a table before it, and a large lighted candle upon the table. They told her that was her bedroom, and she might go to sleep when she pleased; they then wished her a good night, and withdrew altogether, pulling the door quickly after them, so as to hasp the spring-sneck in the brass lock that was upon it. When they were gone, she gazed awhile at the fine furniture, under no small astonishment that they should put such a poor person as her in so grand a room and bed, with all the apparatus of fire, chair, table, and candle. She was also surprised at the circumstance of the servants coming so many together, with each of them a candle; however, after gazing about her some little time, she sat down and took a small Welsh Bible out of her pocket, which she always carried about with her, and in which she usually read a chapter—chiefly in the New Testament—before she said her prayers and went to bed. While she was reading she heard the room door open, and, turning her head, saw a gentleman enter in a gold-laced hat and waistcoat, and the rest of his dress corresponding

therewith. (I think she was very particular in describing the rest of his dress to Mr. Hampson, and he to me at the time, but I have now forgot the other particulars.) He walked down by the sash-window to the corner of the room and then returned. When he came at the first window in his return (the bottom of which was nearly breast-high) he rested his elbow on the bottom of the window, and the side of his face upon the palm of his hand, and stood in that leaning posture for some time, with his side partly towards her. She looked at him earnestly to see if she knew him, but though, from her frequent intercourse with them, she had a personal knowledge of all the present family, he appeared a stranger to her. She supposed afterwards, that he stood in this manner to encourage her to speak; but as she did not, after some little time he walked off, pulling the door after him as the servants had done before. She began now to be much alarmed, concluding it to be an apparition, and that they had put her there on purpose. This was really the case. The room, it seems, had been disturbed for a long time, so that nobody could sleep peaceably in it, and as she passed for a very serious woman, the servants took it in their heads to put the Methodist and spirit together, to see what they would make of it. Startled at this thought, she rose from her chair, and kneeled down by the bedside to say her prayers. While she was praying he came in again, walked round the room, and came close behind her. She had it on her mind to speak, but when she attempted it she was so very much agitated that she could not utter a word. He walked out of the room again, pulling the door after him as before. She begged that God would strengthen her and not suffer her to be tried beyond what she was able to bear; she recovered her spirits, and thought she felt more confidence and resolution, and determined if he came in again she would speak to him, if possible. He presently came in again, walked round, and came behind her as before; she turned her

head and said, "Pray, sir, who are you, and what do you want?" He put up his finger, and said, "Take up the candle and follow me, and I will tell you." She got up, took up the candle, and followed him out of the room. He led her through a long boarded passage, till they came to the door of another room, which he opened and went in; it was a small room, or what might be called a large closet. "As the room was small, and I believed him to be a spirit", she said, "I stopped at the door; he turned and said, 'Walk in; I will not hurt you.' So I walked in. He said, 'Observe what I do'; I said, 'I will.' He stooped, and tore up one of the boards of the floor, and there appeared under it a box with an iron handle in the lid. He said, 'Do you see that box?' I said, 'Yes, I do.' He then stepped to one side of the room, and showed me a crevice in the wall, where, he said, a key was hid that would open it. He said, 'This box and key must be taken out, and sent to the Earl in London' (naming the earl and his place of residence in the city). He said, 'Will you see it done?' I said, 'I will do my best to get it done.' He said, 'Do, and I will trouble the house no more.' He then walked out of the room and left me. (He seems to have been a very civil spirit, and to have been very careful to affright her as little as possible.) I stepped to the room-door, and set up a shout. The steward and his wife, and the other servants, came to me immediately; all clung together, with a number of lights in their hands. It seems they had all been waiting to see the issue of the interview betwixt me and the apparition. They asked me what was the matter? I told them the foregoing circumstances, and showed them the box. The steward durst not meddle with it, but his wife had more courage, and, with the help of the other servants, tugged it out, and found the key. She said by their lifting it appeared to be pretty heavy, but that she did not see it opened, and therefore did not know what it contained:—perhaps money, or writings of consequence to the family, or both." They took it away with them,

and she then went to bed and slept peaceably till the morning. It appeared afterwards that they sent the box to the Earl in London, with an account of the manner of its discovery, and by whom ; and the Earl sent down orders immediately to his steward to inform the poor woman who had been the occasion of the discovery, that if she would come and reside in his family, she should be comfortably provided for the remainder of her days; or, if she did not choose to reside constantly with them, if she would let them know when she wanted assistance, she should be liberally supplied at his Lordship's expense, as long as she lived. And Mr. Hampson said it was a known fact in the neighbourhood that she had been so supplied from his Lordship's family from the time the affair was said to have happened, and continued to be so at the time she gave Mr. Hampson this account.

MONTGOMERYSHIRE FAMED BREED OF HORSES.

From time immemorial Montgomeryshire has been celebrated for its excellent breed of horses. Its reputation in this respect has been transmitted from the era of the Principality of Powysland, through the feudal ages, to the present period. History records a prominent reason for this distinction. Robert of Bellême, Earl of Shrewsbury, perceived his life, possessions, and titles to be in jeopardy, and preferred to resist the royal mandate, and to oppose force to force, rather than submit to the stern authority of Henry I. In his precautions for future contingencies he was anxious to conciliate the goodwill of his neighbours of Powysland, and this he effected by the present of a choice breed of horses, which have not deteriorated by the lapse of ages, and some valuable cattle. "The[1] overweening greatness of the house of Montgomery, or Bellême, and the personal energy of its members, are shewn in the range both of warfare and negotiation, which was opened by what was in its beginning a mere legal process on the part of the King of the English against an offending subject. The Easter Gemot was to be held at Winchester. The King, April 6, 1102, summoned Earl Robert of Bellême to appear before the assembly, and to answer openly on forty-five distinct charges of offences, done either against the King or against his brother, the Duke of Normandy. Robert demanded of Henry I a licence to come, accompanied by his men. The demand was granted; Earl Robert set forth. The King and his barons were waiting for his coming at

[1] Freeman's *Reign of William Rufus*, vol. ii, 423.

Winchester, but he came not. On the road he changed his mind: he knew that the result of any legal trial must be against him; he deemed, and, doubtless, with truth, that he would be safer in his own strong castles, than he would be in the King's court. He hastened back, breathless and afraid, and the King's messenger had to report, that the Earl of Shropshire had gone elsewhere, and was not on his way to obey the King's summons. Henry did not hurry, but put forth a proclamation, declaring that the Earl, lawfully charged with various crimes, had not come to make his defence, and that, if he did not come at once to do right,—to abide his trial—he would be declared an outlaw. This time Robert directly refused to come, and open war broke out. Earl Robert called on his British allies to help him in his struggle with the King. The promises of Robert of Bellême were splendid; so were his gifts; he almost seems to have won the help of the Britons by a promised restoration of complete freedom to their country. In the allies, thus drawn to his banner, he professed the most boundless trust. He put into their hands—so the Welsh writer tells us—his wealth and his cattle, perhaps, also—what a Norman lord would specially value—the horses of noble breed, which he had brought over from Spain, and whose race flourished in the land of Powys long after."

We have a confirmation of this circumstance in the interesting writings of the learned Giraldus, who gives his testimony to the introduction of this famous breed of steeds of Spanish descent into Powysland through the politic generosity of Earl Robert of Bellême, and refers to the several studs of admirable steeds.

It. Camb., ii, 12, vol. vi, p. 143. "In hac tertia Gualliæ portione, quæ Powisia dicitur, sunt *equitia* (studs) peroptima, et equi emissarii laudatissimi, de Hispaniensium equorum generositate, quos olim comes Slopesburiæ, Robertus de Beleme, in fines istos adduci curaverat, originaliter propagati."

[1] See the *Brut*, 301-305.

To the credit of Powysland be it written, that, if an accidental circumstance imported into its domains a splendid breed of horses, it fully appreciated the boon, and adopted every needful measure to perpetuate the gift, and to hand down the choice possession, unimpaired in its beauty and usefulness, to modern times.

In the black-lettered *Chronicle* of old Oliver Matthews, written in 1616, when speaking of the ancient city of Caersws, he says :—"It was a cittie which nowe is in the County of Montgomery, and was of auncient time parte of Powes-land in the Lordship of Arwystley in a pleasunt, fruitful, and comodious place with pleasant rivers, and a pleasaunt Forest or wood called Koyd Maur, and a pleasaunt Parke called Caer Souch Park, with fruit and large commons thereunto adjoyninge, then called Hirrdowell and Carno, *which parke and comons were after converted for the keepinge of the King's breeding mares till of late.*" And again :—"When anie officer is chosen, theire care is alwaies in keeping and defending their liberties, laws, and customes with their pleasaunte comons and woodes, altho much of the woodes be wasted, and the comons somewhaten croached by the Lordes owners thereof, and the parkes, given awaie from the Burgesses long since set apart for the King's Breeding Mares, until that nowe of of late it is otherwise used, as pleased the owners thereof."[1] In 1571, the Queen by letters patent granted the Manor of Arwystley to Robert, Earl of Leicester. This grant, or privilege, caused the complaint of the quaint chronicler, Oliver Matthews, of the "given awaie of the parkes of Caersouse from the burgesses to keep the King's breeding Mares." William, Earl of Pembroke, and Robert, Earl of Leicester, successively the Steward and Lord of Arwystley, also both held the office of Master of the Horse, and it has been suggested as probable, that this manor was held on condition of keeping the king's or queen's breeding mares.[2]

[1] *Mont. Coll.*, ii, p. 70.

[2] *Mont. Coll.*, iii, p. 32.

The Rev. Walter Davies, in his *Survey of the Agriculture of North Wales* (1810, p. 335), says :—"The vales of Montgomeryshire have long been noted for an excellent breed of Horses. Some attribute this superiority to a stud of horses kept by Queen Elizabeth at Park near Caer Sws, in the Severn vale ; and to others brought into this part of the country from Spain by Robert, Earl of Shrewsbury."

Pennant, in his *Tours in Wales* (vol. ii, p. 364), in noticing Park, the residence of one of the Herberts, says, that he had been informed the Queen Elizabeth had kept there a stud of horses ; possibly the breed of Spanish horses introduced into the country by Robert, Earl of Shrewsbury (citing *Willis's Bangor*, 291) might have rendered these parts distinguished for an excellent kind, even so late as the reign of that great princess.

There is a tradition, that there are some horses of a dull cream, or rather dun colour, which are said to have Arabian blood in their veins. They are, however, conspicuous for their hardy and spirited character, rather than their beauty, or characteristics of high breeding.

Thus we have supplied evidence from various sources of the choice breed of horses in Powysland. History and tradition bear a similar testimony to the varied excellencies of Spanish and Arabian breeds of horses imported, and our personal observation assures us, that the eminent qualities of these horses have not deteriorated through time or circumstances, and that the politic present of Robert of Bellême, Earl of Shrewsbury, is still entitled to the gratitude, and admiration of the inhabitants of Powysland.

MONTGOMERYSHIRE WORTHIES:

A CORRECTION.

"DAVIES.—Rev. Randolph, or Randle, M.A., Vicar of Meifod." Vol. xi, p. 374.

SIR,—As these notices are being reprinted in a Montgomeryshire paper, I wish to draw attention to a statement relating to a former Vicar of this parish, which appears to me to be unjust to his memory, and not accurate in fact.

Premising that "there is little known of him personally, beyond what may be gathered from the register of that parish", it goes on to say that, "he obtained the living of Meifod during the Commonwealth, and contrived, by means of the elasticity of his conscience, to retain his hold of it when Charles II came to the throne." The inference is, of course, that this is information supported by the Register; but the fact is that it is not only unsupported, but contradicted by that evidence.

The Rev. Walter Davies (*Gwallter Mechain*), in his *History of the Parish*,[1] corrects a mistake in Edwards' *Browne Willis* as to the date of his appointment, by carrying it back from 1661 to 1648, the date of his marriage, and showing that he must so have held the living for forty-seven years; but he says nothing to imply that he remained in possession all that time. Canon Wynne Edwards, in his *History of the Parish*,[2] places Randolph Davies as Vicar, in accordance with the above date, in 1648; but adds that Stephen Lewis was appointed in 1649 by the Commonwealth, and remained in possession till 1661, when Randolph Davies was restored.

Mr. T. G. Jones (*Cyffin*), in his *Sketch of the History of Nonconformity*[3] in the parish, is very explicit on the Vicar's deprivation, and implies that his (Randolph Davies') "opposition to the Nonconformists of the parish may, in a measure, be explained by the fact that in 1649 he was removed from his

[1] Contributed to the *Cambrian Quarterly Magazine*, 1829, and reprinted in *Gwaith Gwallter Mechain*, vol. iii, p. 92.

[2] *Mont. Coll.*, vol. x, 174.

[3] Vol. xi, p. 96.

charge, and Stephen Lewis was in charge during the Commonwealth."[1]

The statement, therefore, that Mr. Randle Davies "obtained the living of Meifod during the Commonwealth" has no ground to stand upon. The beginning of that period is allowed, I suppose, to date from January 30, 1648-9; but we have seen him acknowledged by all the authors as Vicar in 1648, on the authority of his marriage entry in the Register; but it appears from other sources that he was appointed still earlier, viz., in April 1647.

In "Hist. MSS. Commission," *Arch. Camb.*, 1882, p. 202, is this entry :—

"1647, April 13.—Application for an Order for Dr. Aylett to institute and induct Randall Davies to the Vicarage of Meifod, Montgomery. *L. J.*, ix, 134."

The original I have not seen; it might throw still further light on the point: but from the form I should think there can be no doubt it is anterior to, or at least quite different in style from, the expressions that would be used by the Puritans in placing any of their nominees in charge.

On his tombstone the inscription is nearly worn away, but these words and figures are tolerably clear :—

HERE lyeth ye Body
of M. RAND DAVIES,
M'r of Arts, Vicar,
this parish Vided (resided ?)
Here 59 years.
Dyed Feb.
1696. Aged .

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[1] Mr. T. G. Jones, however, falls into a curious error in the next sentence, where he writes that, "during his retirement from his labours in Meifod, Randolph Davies employed his leisure in bringing out a book against the doctrines of the Quakers in 1660." The book referred to was, not an attack against, but a *defence* of, the Quakers, being "An Answer to a Book" against them—*Atteb i' Lyfr*—and it was written by four *Quakers*—Chandler, and Cook, and Rondle Davies, and Evans. The book which Randle Davies did write against them—*A Tryall of the Spirits*—was published, not in 1660, but in 1675. And in a note on this in *Llyfryddiaeth y Cymry*, p. 184, the writer—misled evidently by the similarity of the name (no very reliable source of proof for us Welshmen), and without looking carefully into the full title of the book referred to—*supposes* that Randle Davies had a hand in the former one, *Tybir fod ganddo law.* But Mr. Jones asserts that he actually did so. Verily, if this were true, he had "an elastic conscience"; but there is evidently a confusion of names and subjects.

The 59 years puzzles me : as it would date back to 1637.

It is said "he contrived, by means of the elasticity of his conscience, to retain his hold of it, when Charles II came to the throne". How he could "retain his hold", where he had been turned out, I cannot say ; but the Register clearly shows that, from 1651-1660, it was a different handwriting and a different style, and written by one who could neither spell correctly nor write grammatically.

On the front and second page of the second Register Book are a number of entries—some in Vicar Davies' handwriting and some in another person's—for the years 1649-50, with a list of five of the Vicar's children in succession, but not in order, ranging from 1650-56 ; and then follow the entries, not as before" .... "Baptizatus" ; "but .... "the soone of .... "was borne" .... "boorne .... ".

In 1660, the handwriting of Randolph Davies is found again, showing that, at the restoration, he, too, came to his rights, not by "means of elasticity of conscience", but by a consistent endurance of persecution and sequestration, rather than twist his conscience to the requirement of the Parliamentary approvers of the Cromwell *régime*.

Feb. 10, 1883. D. R. Thomas.

Sir,—Having been favoured with a perusal of the above "correction" prior to its being set up by the printer, it is right I should state that, in the absence of an opportunity of consulting, myself, the Meifod Register, I prepared my sketch of the Rev. Randolph Davies from such other materials as I had at hand. The particular statements complained of respecting his having obtained the living of Meifod during the Commonwealth, and the "elasticity of his conscience", were made on the authority of *Geirlyfr Bywgraffiadol* (a "Biographical Dictionary of Eminent Welshmen," Liverpool, 1870), which must not be confounded with the late Rev. Canon Williams's excellent work.

The Rev. Canon Thomas shows conclusively that Randolph Davies was *not* appointed to Meifod during the Commonwealth ; but a year or two prior to its commencement; and from the dates and facts given above, we may also reasonably infer that he was throughout life a consistent advocate and upholder of Royalist and Church principles. I am, therefore, sorry that I was misled (as it now appears) to make a statement disparaging to the memory of this "Worthy", and am obliged to Canon Thomas for his "correction".

Your readers will, I believe, give me credit for, at all events, honestly endeavouring to record, without bias or partiality, the lives of our departed "Worthies". Any information that may enable me to make my imperfect sketches more faithful and complete, I am only too glad at all times to receive and to make the best use of.

R. WILLIAMS.

Feb. 20, 1883.

REV. WALTER DAVIES' CORRESPONDENCE.

LETTERS addressed by the late Rev. Walter Davies to his friend Mr. Owen Jones (*Owen Myfyr*), and to the Gwyneddigion Society of London, etc. From the Myvyrian Manuscripts in the British Museum. With Translations. T. W. HANCOCK.

LETTER I.—*Add. MSS.* 15,031.

Llanfechain, *Gorph.* 27, 1789.

Y CAREDIG CYMRO,—Nid oes genyf yn awr ond diolchgarwch am eich gweddeidd-dra, yr hyn eilw Sais *gratitude*; nid oes genyf gyfleustra i'w ddangos yn awr, ond rwy'n hyderu y caf ryw amser a ddaw, canys yr oeddwn yn gweled caredigrwydd yn y llythyr oddiwrth ddyn dieithr na chefais erioed gydnabyddiaeth ag ef; am eich cynghorion yr oedd yn rhy hwyr imi wneud deunydd o honynt, canys ddoe y cefais y llythyr. Nid oes genyf ond rhedeg yr un yrfa ag eraill, a dweud efo Pheilat, "Yr hyn a 'sgrifenais, a 'scrifenais"; gan fy mod yn hyderu yn eich cyfrinachol burdeb, y cyfarwyddais y llyfr attoch yn lle at Mr. W. Owen, a gwnewch y goreu o'r gwaethaf, canys bydd hynny yn llawer yn fy nhu fod un deallgar yn yr iaith a'r gelfyddyd yn ei roi allan, er bod y llygad yn well barnwr barddoniaeth na'r glust; nid oes achos i'r Gymdeithas yn gyffredinol wybod eich bod yn gydnabyddus o'r awdwr, yn enwedig y rhai oedd o blaid Twm o'r Nant y tro diweddaf, canys cant i ûn na byddant efo ag e y tro hwn hefyd. Os cefais ychydig o ffafr yn eich golwg anfonwch immi yn ddirgel y newydd ar ol y dywllun cyntaf o Awst; na aroswch i ddisgwyl cyfleustra i'w ddanfon yn ddigost fel y tro ymma, canys ni rwgnachwn dalu i'r rhedegwr am ryw newyddion perthynasol i'r Gelfyddyd, yn enwedig am y farn; os gwnewch gymwynas a hynny erddof, byddaf yn rhwymedig ichwi ymhob modd tuag at ad-daledigaeth, ac ni chaiff undyn wybod. Mae Twm o'r Nant yn rhy gyfrwys imi gael copi o'i waith,—a rhyfeddu yr wyf eich bod yn gwybod mai Twm o'r Nant a minnau oedd y ddau ymdrechwr. Yr oedd y gais nad oedd y Gymdeithas i wybod

henwau'r Prydyddion, a rhyfeddu hefyd yr wyf na buasai Sion Ceiriog yn tueddu ychydig efo Jonathan Hughes, ag yntau yn gymydog iddo. Rwyf i'n trigo mewn ardal ymddifad o afiaeth. Mae'n debygol gennyf nad oes yr un o Gymdeithas y Gwyneddigion wedi eni yn Swydd Drefaldwyn, a rhyfeddu mae pawb ichwi fod mor ddiduedd, a gollwng y dorch imi, canys credu y maent na ddichon bod prophwyd yn Nazareth.

Ac am waith Twm yn tuchanu'r Barnwyr, gallant fod yn esmwyth; 'rwyf fi ag yntau yn gyfeillion, *er hynny mae Awen a Chenfigen yn ddwy chwaer*. Ŷr wyf fi yn barod ar bob achlysur i'ch boddio chwi a'r Gymdeithas ymhob ryw fodd ag y sydd yn fy ngallu, ond cael rhyw gyfarwyddyd o'r dull i gymmeryd mewn llaw. Ymma terfynaf gan hyderu ynoch,

Yr wyf eich ufudd wasanaethwr,

GWALLTER MECHAIN.

Dymunwn ichwi ddarllen y Cywydd *Ystyriaeth ar Oes Dŷn* ar osteg y Gymdeithas. Gallech wrth ei adrodd addurno llawer arno. Clywais Twm o'r Nant yn dweud fod gan drigolion Mon ac Arfon ryw *accen'* wrth ddatgan Cywydd amgenach nag a glywodd ê erioed. Chwi ellwch gyflwyno llyfr i Gwilym heb ei wneud yn gydnabyddus o'r llythyr hwn. Gwnewch fel y gweloch yn dda, a chofiwch am G. M.

Addressed—[Mr. Owen Jones,
No. 148, Upper Thames Street, London.
By the Mail Coach, to be delivered on or before
August 2nd.—Carriage paid.]

TRANSLATION.—LETTER I.

Llanfechain, July 27, 1789.

GENEROUS CYMRO,—I have at present only gratitude to present to you for your favour; but I hope to have an opportunity very soon to repay you better. Your letter breathed a spirit of kind feeling to a total stranger whom I have never seen. As your letter was only received yesterday, it was too late for me to profit by your directions. I have now only to run the common chance on the course with others, and to say with Pilate, "What I have written is written." Trusting to your confidential nature, I send the book to you instead of to Mr. W. Owen, and please do the best you can in my favour, as you are so able in the language; the eye is a better judge than the ear in poetry. The Society in general need not know that you have any knowledge of the author, especially the

party that favoured *Twm o'r Nant* on the last occasion, for a hundred to one but the same party will this time also side with him. If I have favour in your sight, please let me have the news privately before the first Monday in August. Do not wait for an opportunity to send it free, for I shall not begrudge the expense to have any news relating to the "craft", especially about the adjudication. If you can do me the favour, I shall be bound in many ties to repay you, and no one shall know. *Twm o'r Nant* is too crafty to let me have a copy of his production. I am somewhat surprised you knew that *Twm o'r Nant* and myself were the two competitors. It was expected that the Society should not know who were the competitors. I am surprised that Sion Ceiriog did not side with his old neighbour, Jonathan Hughes. I live in a district where the people have no taste for literature; and I suppose that there is not a member of the Gwyneddigion Society a native of Montgomeryshire. Every one is surprised that you have acted so impartially, and awarded me the prize. They did not believe that there could come a prophet out of Nazareth.

Respecting *Twm's* lampooning the judges, they may be comfortable. He and I are both friends—though Poesy (*Awen*) and Envy are two sisters. I am ready at all times to bide the will and pleasure of the Society, and that in every way in my power. And a hint in the way to please them would be acceptable. Here remaining and confiding in you,

I am, your obedient servant,

GWALLTER MECHAIN.

I should like you to read the Cywydd *Yotyriaeth ar Oes Dyn* before the Society. Good reading would set the poem to advantage. I heard *Twm o'r Nant* say that the natives of Anglesey and Carnarvonshire have a peculiar accent, which sets out the reading of a Cywydd better than he ever heard in any part of Wales. You can give Gwilym a book without informing him of this letter. But do as you please, and pray remember G. M.

Address—Mr. Owen Jones,
No. 148, Upper Thames Street, London.
By the Mail, to be delivered on or before
August 2nd. Carriage paid.

LETTER II.—*Add. MSS.* 15,031.

HYBARCH GYMRO,—Llyna *Traethawd ar y Defodau* wedi hanner ei orphen; cefais llawer o ymsennu o herwydd immi dreulio hynny o amser efo ag e. Pan oeddwn ar ganol ei ysgrifennu, bu edifar genyf ganwaith ei ddechreu. Bwriedais unwaith ei adael heibio, canys i'r oeddwn i yn ei weled yn waith diddiwedd. Mae yn waith blwyddyn ei ysgrifenni fel y dylid, ac nis gwn i pa les a wnai wedi hynny. Nid hwyrach fod hynny a ysgrifenais gan belled oddiwrth ddisgwyliad y Gymdeithas ac ydyw y deheu o'r gogledd. Mae'n debygol nad oeddynt yn disgwyl cyfraith Hywel Dda wedi ei hail fwrw o'r naill ben i'r llall. Os felly y mae, yn ofer y llafuriais; ac yn ofer rhoddwyd y testun allan.

Mae Eisteddfod i fod yn Rhuthyn Wyl Dewi nesaf, a T.E., Nant, i fod yn llywydd trwy annogaeth Gwyneddigion Llundain, meddai yr argraphedig gyhoeddiad. Fe ddanfonwyd immi un o honynt. I'r oedd llythyr wedi cyd cychwyn ond safodd hwnnw ar y ffordd, fe allai oddiwrth y Nant, ni hwyrach y daw y llythyr i ben ei daith eforu neu drennydd. Mae tri thestun cyhoeddawl; sef,—I. "Cyfraith y tir, ac Arian y Brenhin." Myfi a glywais y Nant yn dymuno er's blynydd-oedd gael canu ar y testun hwnnw. Testun a ddychymygodd ef ei hun, i ganu efo ei law. Ni's gwn i mwy pa beth ydyw, nag a wyddai "Barcud Penllyn" pa beth oedd "Cyflafan y Beirdd". II. "Gwyl Ddewi". III. "Tref Rhuthyn." Ariandlws i'r Bardd goreu; cadair i'r ail; ysnoden las i'r trydydd.

Mae y cyhoeddiad yn ddiweddu fel hyn:—

"Beirddion, cantorion cu naturiawl—dewch
A dichwen synhwyrawl,
Ennynwch mynwch y mawl
O Ruthyn yn wir ethawl.

"Ar llwyr wrandawyr diwyd,—sai'n hyffordd
Sy'n hoffi'r gelfyddyd;
Rhowch wobrwy oruwch wiwbryd,
Nerthi'r beirdd sy'n wyrth[1] i'r byd.

"T.E.—Trwy annogaeth Gwyneddigion Llundain.
"Croes Oswallt: Argraphwyd gan J. S." [J. Salter].

Hyn oddiwrth eich ufudd wasanaethydd,
MECHAIN.

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[1] Rectius, *warth*.

F'enfyn Rhaiadr enw pawb a ysgrifenodd ar y testunau ichwi. Onid y mae ef yn tybied mai ychydig englynion a ysgrifenais i ar "Gyflafan y Beirdd." Nid oes achos i neb o'r Gymdeithas (onid y Myfyr) wybod pwy ydyw "Merviniensis", oddieithr iddynt adnabod dull ei ysgrifeniad. Oddiwrth *Mervinia* y cymerwyd yr enw, canys yn Meirion i'r ysgrifenwyd, gydag ychydig, a rhy fychan o lawer o gyfleustra llyfrau gerllaw.

Byddwch wych, wyf fal o'r blaen,
Yr eiddoch mewn gwirionedd, etc.[1]

Address—Mr. Owen Jones,
148, Upper Thames Street, London.

TRANSLATION.—LETTER II.

RESPECTED CYMRO,—Here is the essay on the *Defodau* (Customs) half finished. I have suffered a good deal of unpleasantness, because I spent so much time with it. I was very sorry, when half through the work, that I had ever commenced it. At one time I thought of setting it aside, for it appeared an interminable work. It would take a year to write upon it as it should be done. Perhaps what I have written is as far from the mark of what the Society desires, as the north is from the south. They did not expect to see the laws of Howel Dda thrown into a new mould from beginning to end. If so, I have laboured in vain, and in vain was it that the subject was given out.

There is to be an Eisteddfod in Ruthin next St. David's Day, and T. E., Nant is to preside, under the auspices of the London Gwyneddigion; so says the printed announcement. I had a copy sent me, and a letter was also posted the same time, but this has not come to hand, probably sent by the Nant. It may reach me to-morrow or the following day. The three subjects announced are:—1. "The Law of the Land, and Ready Money." I heard the Nant several times say he should like "to sing" upon this subject. So it appears it is wholly his own subject. I know not what it means, but just as much as the *"Penllyn Kite"*[2] knows what *Cyflafan y Beirdd* (The Massacre of the Bards) meant. 2.

[1] This letter has no place, date, or year, when written, nor postmark; but probably was written in 1789, immediately after Bala Eisteddfod, and sent by hand.—T. W. H.

[2] Alluding to a certain Penllyn poet's knowledge of this subject that had been given to compete upon. Allusion is made to this in a letter of a later date.—T. W. H.

"St. David's Festival." 3. "The Town of Ruthin." A silver medal is to be given for the victorious bard, a chair for the second, and a blue favour (*ysnoden las*) to the third. The announcement winds up as follows:—

[Translation.]

"Bards and minstrels favoured by nature—come,
To the grand festival of learning,—
Come inspired, and take away
From Ruthin, the selected prizes.

"And you, intelligent auditors—who admiringly
Love the flowing muses,
Shew approval as a reward
To encourage genius in the country.

"T.E., under the patronage of the Gwyneddigion of London."
"Oswestry, printed by J. S. [Salter.]"

This from your obedient servant,
MECHAIN.

Rhaiadr[1] will send you the names of all those who have written on the subject. He thinks that I have only sent a few englynion on the subject of the "Massacre of the Bards". You need not let any of the Society know who *Merviniensis* is, unless they should find out by the handwriting and style. The name was adopted from the district it was written in, *Mervinia* (Merioneth). But I had too little time, and a great want of more books at hand.

Fare you well; I am as heretofore,
Yours in faithfulness, etc.

LETTER III.—*Add. MSS.* 15,030.

Hydref 8ed, 1789.

HYNAWS GYMRO,—Derbynais eich llythyr y 27ain o Fedi, ac a'i cedwais yn gyfrinachol. Yr oeddwn yn y fan a'r lle pan ysgrifenodd Mr. Jones[1] Lythyr at y Gwyneddigion, ail noswaith yr Eisteddfod, a meddyliais wrth hynny nad oedd achos imi yrru'r un newydd i chwithau nes y cawn rhywbeth yn rhagor i ddanfon; a munais unwaith beidio a danfon attoch hyd y 19 o'r mis hwn, y pryd (trwy gennad Rhagluniaeth, ag os na ddaw anffawd) y mae Gwylmabsant ein plwy ni, ag y bydd helwr-

[1] Thomas Jones of Llanrhaiadr in Mochnant, Excise Officer.

iaeth mewn grym, mi anfonaf ichwi Geinach, megis rhyw rhan fechan o ddiolchgarwch am eich holl ewyllys da tuag attaf; bum yn meddwl unwaith anfon un arall i'ch cyfaill Mr. Wm. Owen, ond mi attaliaf yn awr, nes y clywaf ymhellach oddiwrthych, a fydd oreu i mi wneythur hynny a'i peidio, rwy'n hyderu y bydd y geinach yn y Mwythig yr 20fed, a phen tridiau yn Llundain. Mi anfonais y llythyr hwn tu mewn i lythyr arall at wladwr i mi, sef Mr. Ed. Richards, No. 39, St. Martin's le Grand, Newgate Street, gan hyderu y cyflwyna fe hwn i chwi. Ni bu ddim dadl yn y Bala ynghylch barn y Gwyneddigion. Mae'r Eisteddfod nesa i fod yn Llanelwy. Fe unodd y Beirdd (trwy annogiad Mr. Davies o Lanfawr) i ganu Owdlau ar y 24 mesurau, heb ymwrthod ag yr un o'r crach fesurau, ni waeth gen I, nid ydynt nemawr gasach imi nag iddynt hwythau. Mae un o'm cydnabyddiaeth ar fedr anturio scrifenu Rhyddiaith ar y testun "Rhyddid", os ganaf innau Farddoniaeth, deg i un a ninnau'n lled agos i'n gilydd na bydd yr un feddyliau'n gwbl yn y ddau. Dymunwn glywed ryw dro ganddoch a fydd hynny yn ganiattaol. Bwriadu 'rydwyf scrifennu ar Rhyddid mewn cymmaint o wahanol ffyrdd ac y sydd o rywiogaethau Rhyddid. Meddwl y Gymdeithas ydyw debygwn ydyw Rhyddid gwladwriaeth, ar hon rwy'n bwriadu scrifennu helaethaf drachefn, mae Rhyddid yn teyrnasu yn mynwes y duwiol er ei fod mewn caethiwed. Ryddid hefyd y galwn diffyg y pechadur fo'n dibrisio cyfreithiau Duw a'i deyrnas; hynn yn fyrr i ddangos ichwi fy meddwl, dymunwn gan hynny glywed eich meddwl chwithau ar fy meddwl I; mae'n angenrheidiol i'r cyfansoddiadau fod yn Llundain cyn y dywllun cyntaf o Fawrth: rwyf I ar fedr canu'n gynil ar y crach fesurau, sef un o bob rhyw o naddynt, a chanu yn helaeth ar y mesurau godidocaf pa rai a gynwys synwyr orau. Mi es at Morys Dafis ac a gynygiais arwain yr hen orchestawl Dd. ab Gwilym i 'Stafell yr Eisteddfod, ond y gwr a fynnai'r gorchwyl hwnw arno ei hunan, ni werthodd onid dau am a wn I, un i mi a'r llall i J. Edwards o Llangollen, rwy wedi annog tri neu bedwar i anfon am dano yn ddifyrwch hirnos gaua' canys eitha' teuluwr oedd Dd. ab G. Rhys Jones o'r Blaenau oedd awdwr y Cywydd byrr a grybwyllasoch, 'roedd yn bressenol yn y Bala ond ni arddelwodd ei waith: nid oes lle i helaethu fy llythyr yn awr, ar hynny terfynnaf, gan obeithio y byddwch o hynn allan megis yr amser aeth heibio.

hyn oddiwrth, G. Mechain.

"Ar dafod ddefod ddifyr—ag awen
Gu ewig Brythonnwyr,

Nid yw'r glod i fôd yn fyr,
Am afiaeth Owain Myfyr."

Address—[Mr. Owen Jones,
Upper Thames Street, London.][1]

TRANSLATION.—LETTER III.

Oct. 8, 1789.

GENEROUS CYMRO,—I received your letter on the 27th September, and have kept it private. I was in the place when Mr. Jones wrote his letter to the Gwyneddigion, on the second night of the Eisteddfod. I thought, under the circumstances, it would be superfluous to send you the same news. I thought at one time of delaying until the 19th of this month, when our parish festival (*Gwyl Mabsant*) begins. But I will at that time, if Providence grants me, send you a hare as a trifling acknowledgment of my obligations to you. We have on that occasion a hunt, and shall then have an opportunity of getting one. I would wish also to send one to Mr. W. Owen; but shall not forward it before hearing from you whether it would be acceptable by him or not. I expect to forward the same from Shrewsbury on the 20th, and on the third day after the hare will be in London. I enclose this letter within another sent to an old neighbour of mine, Mr. Edward Richards, No. 39, St. Martin's le Grand, Newgate Street, hoping it may be safely delivered to you. The adjudication of the Gwyneddigion was received at Bala without any discussion thereon. The next Eisteddfod is to be held at St. Asaph. The bards, upon the recommendation of Mr. Davies of Llanfaur, agreed to compose *Awdlan* according to the four-and-twenty metres, excepting none. I don't care, they are not more difficult for me than they are for them. One of my acquaintances says he will write an essay on "Liberty" (*Rhyddid*), if I compose a poem on the same subject. Ten to one, as we live in the same neighbourhood, but we should follow in the same ideas. I wish to know would this be accepted. I intend writing on the subject, and that in as varied a light as there are kinds of liberty. The meaning of the Society, I opine, was that of constitutional liberty of the country. I shall write more fully upon this. But there is the

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[1] This letter is written in very small handwriting with few capital letters; and stands in marked contrast of style, etc., to his subsequent letters, has "SHREWSBURY" postmark; also the London ("Oc. 13, '89") stamp; and the postage "6" mark.—T. W. H.

liberty which the Christian enjoys within himself, even while oppressed by sin. And the sinner, who despises the Law of God, may be said to be in some state of liberty or freedom. I just note one or two thoughts, and should like to know what your thoughts are upon mine. It is necessary for the composition to be in London before the first Monday in March. I intend composing but sparingly on the irregular metres, that is, just one stanza upon each of those, but extensively on the higher or more flowing of the metres, such as shall set out the thoughts to best advantage. I went to Morys Dafis, and offered to introduce the distinguished Davydd ap Gwilym in before the Eisteddfod, but he wished to reserve the honour of doing so to himself. He sold only two copies, I believe, one to Mr. J. Edwards of Llangollen, and one to myself. I have recommended three or four persons to get the work, as it would be a source of much interest for the long winter evenings' diversions in the family. Rhys Jones of Blaenau, was the author of the short Cywydd, which I told you of. He was present at Bala, but did not choose to acknowledge his authorship. I have no more space for a longer letter, therefore I close, hoping that you will continue to be as in the past.

This from,

Mr. Owen Jones. G. MECHAIN.

LETTER IV.—*Add. MSS.* 15,024.

TO THE PRINTER OF ADAMS' "WEEKLY COURANT."

SIR,—A paragraph having appeared in your paper of the 10th Nov. last, apparently the production of Peter Partial, stating the transactions of Bala Eisteddfod, in such a point of view as to censure the conduct of the Gwyneddigion Society for not adjudging the medal to the competitor who, in Partial's invalid judgment, merited the prize. I waited in hopes that some person more equal to the task than myself, would have noticed that paragraph, which in my opinion was penn'd for no other purpose than to prevent the Society from holding forth that future encouragement to the bards of their country, which they have hitherto done. Not succeeding in my expectations, I took the resolution to defend *injured* liberality and *insulted* honour, by asserting that Peter was neither an auditor nor a peruser of the poetical compositions treating upon the *Life of Man*;[1] then how could he presume

[1] The *Awdl* "*Oes Dyn*", one of the subjects of the Eisteddfod.

to eradicate the decision of the Society. He must have judged according to his own imperfect ideas, or what chattering falsities he heard by word of mouth; then every syllable of his infective defamation claims no other title than a blind and superstitious partiality, which by operating on poor Peter's absurd fancy, caused him to conceive erroneous imaginations, and to aver that the Society gave their votes "against Muse, against good thoughts, and against sense". But I find myself happy to declare, that the monstrous brood of Peter's brain were brought forth abortive.

To Edwards is attributed the flowing vein of the *furor poeticus*, without which Peter says it's ridiculous for any one to aspire to the name of poet. 'Tis equally ridiculous, if not skilled in the rules of metre and purity of language. Poetry without rules forfeits its name, and is no other than a confused jargon; and without purity of language, it's but mere barbarism. When competent and impartial judges are to decide the merits of different poetical competitors, the first point they have in view is to consult which follows the instituted rules, and which does not; for unless it answers the grammatical scale, let the Muse flow—thoughts abound—imagination soar aloft, it's no poetry. Making objections against Peter for placing Edwards as the *Almuten(?)* in the poetical sphere, unrivall'd in wit and humour, far be it from me, but on the contrary, were my encomiums of any force, I would gladly lift him to a more elevated station by placing him in the centre between Garrick and Shakespear. But what aggravates my censure against Mr. Partial, is, that by his insinuative production, he strove to diminish the literate character of the Gwyneddigion, by declaring them incompetent judges of poetry. Had he written against the merits, transactions, and conduct of an individual, whom he well knew, both in person and actions, he had built upon some foundation. But by building castles in the air, and darting venom at a whole Society, of whom, perhaps, he knew not one member, was altogether *impudence*; he rushed headlong, like a naked desperado, against the poignant weapon of an armed cavalry; without any provocation but the itching frenzy of his misleading phantasm. Was the Society so indiscreet as Peter, they would be offended at his venomous publication, and withdraw their generosity of presenting a medal annually; then would poetry again be buried in oblivion, and Peter would be the ungrateful instrument of nipping in the bud the flower of genius. Should this be the event, Peter would be a deserving object of derision to be smitten with the

keenest satires. But I hope the venerable Venedotian will not be dismayed at the envious proceedings of this calumnious antagonist; but face their insulting foes, or treat them with the contempt they deserve, by not taking the least notice of them; and pursue their intended re-establishment of genius in spite of gainsaying hirelings. This should ever be desired by a well-wisher to the Society, and bards in general.

CELTICUS.

Dec. 2, 1789; Jan. 8, 1790.

Llyna'r gwrthddadl ir enllib, chwi a welwch yr amser, a pha sawl gwaith yr anfonwyd; mi delais i'r rhedegwr bob tro rhag iddo fod yn annerbyniol o achos côst. Mae'n rhyfedd gennyf os nad ydyw'r cyhoeddwr wedi eu wobrwyo i beidio a derbyn gwrthadlau. A oes rhyddid yr argraphwasg yn hynny? Mi gyfrwyddais y llythyrau olynol at Mr. J. Monck yr argraphwr ond y tro nesaf y scrifenaf fi etto, mi a chwanegaf ddwy llythyren at ei gyfenw; fel hym Mr. Monk—ey.

[Translation.]

Here is the reply to the detraction. You will observe the dates that I have written there. I paid the messenger each time, lest the expense should operate to keep out my answer. I should not be surprised but that the publisher is bribed to keep all replies out. Is there liberty of the press in this? I sent the letter to Mr. J. Monck, the printer; but the next time I write I shall add two letters to his name, thus, Mr. Monk—ey.

LETTER V.—*Add. MSS.* 15,024.

At Anrhydeddus Gymdeithas y Gwyneddigion, y mwyaf anhaeddiancl o'r lleiaf o'u cymmwynasau; GWALLTER MECHAIN *yn anfon annerch*:

FONEDDIGION,—Llyma'r odfa dynghedfennol, i ddwyn i'ch côf fy anniolchgarwch; 'rwy'n gyfaddef fy ngwendid, y bai mwyaf annoddefol mewn cyfeillach. Na fernwch monwyf cyn fy ngwrando, ac ni'm gwrandewir heb fy esgus. 'Rwyn gydwybodol y dylaswn eich annerch yn ddiattreg, wedi derbyn eich anrheg, ond cyfaill oestadol immi a alwaf Mr. Hîr oedi, a gafodd afael yn y bwriad ac a'i rhoddodd dan glo; ond mae'r agoriad gan Amser i ddyfod. Ac yr wyf I'n meddwl pe buaswn I'n anfon yn ebrwydd fe a wel'sai fy ngwrthwynebwyr bob brycheuyn yn drawst, a phob gair o glod yn weniaith, fel pan anfonaf yn ddiddisgwyliad, bydd llai o barotoad yn f'erbyn.

Yn eich annerchiad at y Beirdd yr Eisteddfod y Bala, 1789, dymunasoch i bob un a ganai ar y testyn "Rhyddid," am anfon ei enw mewn papur neilltuol seliedig. Gwasanaethed hyn i beri ichwi ddeall yr ymddanghosaf innau ymhlith y rhedegwyr, tan orchudd y waith hon etto. Clywais newydd disylfaen, anghymmeradwy i'm harchwaeth; y bydd i rwgnachus ddadwrdd, ac anwybodus sibrwd y wlad, beri i chwi (Hybarch goleddwyr y Fryttaniaith) roddi'r Farn oddiar eich dwylaw i ryw rai pennodol yn y wlad: ond os ni choelia dau neu dri o'r tuchanwyr sydd yn traflyngcu dyfroedd Meribah fod eich barn chwi yn ddiduedd, ni choelia'r tri chymaint y bydd fyth farn ddiduedd yn y wlad; mwy na chynt Ynglynn Ceiriog pan enillodd Arthur; ac yn Bala pan dderchafwyd Elis Cadwalader i'r Gadair, er bod anghywreindeb annoddefol yn amlwg yngwaith y ddau hyd heddyw.

Na ddisgwiliwch ryngu bodd pawb, nac un ran o dair: Mi a feddyliwn y byddai'r byd ar ben, ped fae'r wlad oll yr un farn, o ran na buont erioed hyd yn hyn. Na fydded i ragfarn enllibwyr eich digalonni, nid eill chwithrod y nadroedd hynny wneud y niwaid lleiaf i chwi. Maent o'r anian a Chrocodil yr afon Nilus, os ffowch hwy erlidiant, os sefwch yn wrol hwy a wrthredant. Ewch rhagoch, na arbedwch hwy a gwilyddir, ac addiflanant megis ser yn ffoi o wydd yr haul. Y chwi ydyw'r unig goleddwyr ac os ein taeogrwydd a bair ichwi'n gwrthod, ymddifad a fyddwn yn wir. Mae'n gywilydd ini bod yn trigo yn yr un ynys a'r Saeson pa rai, yn yr oes hon, sydd a'u llawn fwriad am gywreindeb yn yr holl gelfyddydau; ni fuont fwy awyddus i ddysgeidiaeth er pan y mae Lloegr yn deyrnas.

Er eich clod tragwyddol, byddwch offerynau i gyfoethogi ein hiaith dlawd, er hynny ardderchog; gosodasoch y sylfaen. A rowch chwi heibio'r adeiladaeth? Na rowch er Tobbia'r Ammoniad a'i wenwynig gyfeillion. Minnau yn ol fy egwan allu, a fyddaf ddiwyd yn y gorchwyl anghenrheidiol tra byddo tan eich goruchwiliaeth, a thra caffwyf yr anrhydedd o fod i chwi frawdol ddinasyddion yn ostyngedicaf wasanaethwr ac yn

WALTER MECHAIN.

Mawrth 9ed 1790.

To Mr. Owen Jones,
No. 148, Upper Thames Street,
London.

[Post Office Stamp, "SHREWSBURY." Postage, 6*d*.]

TRANSLATION.—LETTER V.

To the Honorable the Society of Gwyneddigion, the most unworthy of the least of their favours; GWALLTER MECHAIN *sendeth greeting.*

GENTLEMEN,—This is an opportune time to remind you of my gratitude. I acknowledge my deficiency in duty to the Society. But judge me not before you hear me. I am conscious that I ought to have replied to you without any delay after receiving your gift; but an old acquaintance of mine, Mr. Procrastination, got hold of my intention, and locked it up. However, time holds the key, and my thoughts were, that if I replied immediately, those who are opposed to me would have seen every dust a beam, and every word I may have said in praise to be flattery; but when I write at an unexpected time, there will be less time for any attack.

In your address to the bards at the Bala Eisteddfod, 1789, you decided that every competitor on the subject of "Liberty", should send his name under a separate and sealed cover. Let this be an intimation to you that I am now on the course, also under cover. I heard a piece of unfounded, and to me distasteful news, that it may be possible, you may, to avoid grumblers and the whisperings of ignorant persons in the country, throw off the work of adjudicating, from your own hands, and place the same into the hands of some persons in the country. You are the actual fountain of our patriotism, and the protectors of our language. I believe, that if you give ear to grumblers, there will be no fairness to be had in the country; as was the case at Glyn Ceiriog when Arthur gained, and at Bala when Elis Cadwalader was raised to the chair, whose works show many and serious defects.

Do not expect to please everybody, nor the one-third. I should take it that the world is ripe for the end when every one comes to the same mind, for it has not been so from the beginning until now. Let not the prejudice of envious persons discourage you; the hissing of snakes cannot harm you in the least. These persons are like the crocodiles of the Nile, if one flees they will pursue, but if one faces them firmly they flee. You are the only conservators of the language, and if you be persuaded by any persons, we indeed shall be unsupported. It is a disgrace to us to live in the same island with the English, who show so much zeal in encouraging the arts and sciences, and never more so than at the present time, since England has been a kingdom.

To your everlasting honour, you will be the means of en-

riching our literature, and cultivating our dear language, which is so rich in many elements. You have laid the foundation; will you relinquish the erection? You will not, to please Tobbia the Ammonite and his friends. I, according to my poor abilities, will be diligent in the necessary work, as long as it is under your direction, and myself one of your patriotic brotherhood, and to be

Your humble servant, and

March 9th, 1790. WALTER MECHAIN.

LETTER VI.—*Add. MSS.* 15,031.

HYNAWS GOLEDDWR BRYTANIAETH,—Yr wyf yn credu fod Ywain Myfyr yn Offeryn yn llaw Rhagluniaeth i beri i'r Mechain fyned i'r offeiriadaeth. Pa'r un bynag a wneiff ai myned ai peidio, mae y gair o hynny ar wasgar hyd yr holl ardal "chwedl a gynydda fel casegeira". Traulfawr ydyw aros cyhyd o flynyddoedd yn Rhydychen, hyny ydyw y Rhwystr mwyaf. Pegallai dreiddio drwy y graddau er £100, dedwydd y cyfrifau efe ei hun. Mae yn anghenrheidiol iddo flwyddyn o ladingaidd athrawiaeth cyn y bydd cymmwys i gychwyn i Rn. [Rhydychain.]

Er mwyn esmwythder im meddwl gadewch wybod a ddaeth y Traethawd yn ddiogel canys ni chefais i nod derbyniad o'r Amwythig. Mae wedi cychwyn er diwedd χwefror. Mae un Tomas Hughes o Fochnant yr hwn a gludodd lythyr iwch oddiwrth y Cyllidydd heb ddychwelyd etto. Os digwydd i hwn ddyfod ich llaw cyn ei gyχwyniad o Lundain byddwn falch o lythyr efo efe neu efo y cludydd hwn, os cyfleus. 'Rwyf yn bwriadu myned tan athrawiaeth arfyrder, ond byddai hoff genyf gael y cyfleustra o wasgaru y Traethawd trwy Wynedd yn gyntaf, fel y gallwn ymroddi at ddysgu nerth braich ac ysgwydd. Ac er mwyn hynny a welai Myfyr y Meχain yn rhy daer pe dymunai iddo brysuro yr Argraph?

Ac yn yr atteb ryw amcan o'r amser y disgwylir y Traethawd o'r wasg, a pha nifer a argraphir rhag i'r Meχain gasglu henwau yngweddill. Clywais fod Eisteddfod Llanrwst wedi ei chyhoeddi ym mhapur Caerlleon yn erchi y cyfansoddiadau at y Myfyr erbyn yr ail o Fai, efallai y bydd yn ail o Fehefin cyn i'r Meχain yrru, canys ni chafodd hamdden i ddechreu gair etto.

Mi wyf eich gostyngedig ufuddaf wasanaethydd,

W. DAVIES.

Llanfechain, Ebrill 1 af, 1790.

To Mr. Owen Jones,

No. 148, Upper Thames Street, London.

TRANSLATION.—LETTER VI.

GENEROUS SUPPORTER OF THE BRITISH TONGUE,—I believe Ywain Myfyr is an instrument in the hands of Providence to help the Mechain into the priesthood. Whether he goes or not, the word about it is gone abroad in the neighbourhood, and a story increases like a rolling snowball. It is very expensive to remain so long in Oxford, which is the chief obstacle to this. If I could take a degree at the cost of £100, I should consider myself happy. But I require a year's instruction in Latin before I should be ready to enter Oxford.

To give me peace of mind, let me know if the essay has arrived safe, as I had no acknowledgment from Shrewsbury. It has been sent off since the end of February. There is one Tomas Hughes of Mochnant, the person who conveyed the excise officer's letter, in London, he has not returned. If this should come to hand before he returns, I shall be proud of a letter by him, or by the person who bears you this. I intend going under instruction very shortly, but I should like to have an opportunity of distributing the essay through North Wales first, so that I could give myself wholly to the work of learning. And for that purpose, would it be too much for me to ask you to push on the work of printing. In your reply I should like to know about what time the essay could be expected out of the press. This would save me the labour of getting more names than would be necessary. I heard that the Llanrwst Eisteddfod has been proclaimed in the Chester paper, and that the intended compositions should be in the hands of Myfyr against the 2nd of May. It may be the 2nd of June before Mechain will be able to send his, for he has not yet commenced the work of writing.

I am, your most humble and obedient servant,

W. DAVIES.

Llanfechain, April 1, 1790.

LETTER VII.—*Add. MSS.* 15,030.

MWYNA MYFYR,—Mae pob wythnos yn fis yn fy meddwl er pan ddiffygiodd y Cyfeillach rhyngom; 'rwyf megys adargi etto yn nesu attoch gan gynffon wenieithio am un llawch yn rhagor, i.e., Gair o hysbysrwydd par un a'i lliossawg ai yn y gwrthwyneb ydyw cyfansoddiadau ar Ryddid; Oes ganiadau a thraethodau ardderchog, ai nid oes? Mae'r Eisteddfod wedi ei sefydlu i'w chynal yn Llanelwy ddydd Mawrth a Mercher y Sulgwyn, mae'n debygawl fod y Gymdeithas yn hysbys o

hynny. Byddwn ddiolchgar a rhwymedig iawn i chwi os byddwch mor gymmwynasgar ag anfon immi 'r wythnos or blaen, Arwydd nod y Bardd etholedig ac hefyd arwyddnod y scrifennwr Rhyddiaith goreuol, canys yr wyf yn gwybod arwyddnodau dau neu dri.

Na ommeddwch fi o'm deisyfiad canys yr wyf yn hyderu arnoch ag ni chaf ymweled a Llanelwy heb hynny. Rwyf am newid fy sefyllfa, gan fwriadu myned yn Gyllidydd. Derbyniais yn ddiweddar annerch oddiwrth y Bardd Cloff, Cofiadur y Gymdeithas, os byddwch mor weddol ag anfon y tufewnol iddo byddaf ddiolchgar ichwi.

Yr hwn wyf, Ardderchog Gymro,
Eich ufuddaf wasanaethwr,
Mai'r 4ydd, 1790. GWALLTER MECHAIN.

(trowch y ddalen.)

MR. OWEN JONES,—Dymunwn air o gyngor genych, os digwydd immi gael y cyfleustra i fyn'd yn bublican. Ai tybed na byddai oreu immi ddyfod tan Athrawiaeth i Lundain, byddwn felly yn debyg o gael fy sefydlu yn y ddinas. Os dyscaf yn y wlad, yn y wlad y caf fod, i dramwy dros fynyddoedd a gweunydd bob tywydd.

Os ydyw bywiolaeth yn ddrudtach yn Llundain fe arbed immi'r draul o gadw march. Os oes ichwi gydnabyddiaeth ac un Cyllidydd dymunwn air o hysbysrwydd, a ddichon hyn fod?

WALTER DAVIES.

To Mr. Owen Jones,
148, Upper Thames Street,
London.

TRANSLATION.—LETTER VII.

MOST KIND MYFYR,—Every week appears a month in my mind since the correspondence has made a failure. I now come to you, as a dog would come wagging a flattering tail. My object in this is to seek a word of information whether the number of Essays on "Liberty" are numerous or few and if there is a superior class of compositions to hand. The St. Asaph Eisteddfod is fixed for the Tuesday and Wednesday in Whitsun week, but probably this is known to your Society. I should be particularly glad and obliged to you for the favour of information a week before as to the assumed names of the successful competitors, in poetry and prose. I know two or three. Let me not be disappointed, for I am trusting to you in this. If I do not get to know this I shall not go to St. Asaph. I intend changing my occupation, that is, I wish to

be an Excise Officer. I received a letter lately from the "Bardd Cloff", the Secretary to the Society. Please write. I shall be very grateful to you.

I am, Noble Cymro,
Your most humble Servant,

May the 4th, 1790. GWALLTER MECHAIN.

(*Turn the leaf.*)

MR. OWEN JONES,—I wish to have your advice. If I should obtain the privilege of becoming a "Publican", would it not be desirable for me to go under instruction in London. I should then be likely to have an appointment in that city. If I get my instructions in the country—I shall be fixed in the country —to travel mountain and bog in every weather. If living is dearer in London, I should save the expense of keeping a horse. If you have any acquaintanceship with an Excise Officer there, I should like to know if this could be done.

To Mr. Owen Jones. WALTER DAVIES.

LETTER VIII.—*Add. MSS.* 15,024.

Llanfechain, Awst 4ydd, 1790.

Llwyddiant yn y byd hwn, i Owain Myfyr a'i deulu a dedwyddwch yn y byd a ddaw, yw taer deisyfiad ei rwymediccaf wasanaethwr, Gwallter Mechain.

O Eisteddfod Llan Elwy hyd yn awr, yr oedais scrifenu attoch, o wythnos bwygilydd; gan ddisgwyl dychweliad Mr. Edward Jones y Telyniwr i Lundain, gyda pa un ydd oeddwn yn bwriadu anfon dri o lythyrau, un i chwi, arall i'r Gymdeithas, a'r trydydd i Mr. W. Owen; ond y mae Mr. E. J. yn yr Henblas etto; rwyf yn disgwyl ei weled yr wythnos hon canys yr wyf wedi 'scrifenu iddo ynghylch deg a deugain o hen Awdlau a Chywyddau, ac yna daw f'arfeddyd i ben, trwy anfon fel y soniais; rwyfyn taer ddeisyf cymmod Mr. W. Owen, eisiau atteb ei lythyr yn gynt, ond dymma fel y fu.

Anfoddlawn iawn ydyw amryw o'm cyfneseifiaid cymmydogawl fy mod yn bwriadu myned (i'r Excise) a minnau am llawn fryd ar hynny; i law un o'r rhai'n y digwyddodd llythyr Mr. W. O. a phan y gwelodd ei fod wedi ei ffrangcio gan wr bonheddig anadnabyddus, fe dybiodd yn ddiattreg mai gorchymyn immi fyned ymaith ydoedd ac felly cadwyd ef ddau fis, cyn immi gael golwg arno, na gwybod am dano, ag felly nid oedd gennyf amddiffyn ond cuddio nigofaint a gwynebpryd teg. Mi anfonaf efo Mr. E. Jones enwau dau neu dri at y Geirlyfr, a hynny yw 'r cwbl a allaf i wneuthur, gan iddi fyned mor drwsgl arnaf.

Darfu i wr bonheddig erchi ar Mr. W. Owen, Seneddwr Sir Drefaldwyn, am ddirprwyo immi gennad y Swyddogion Cyllidawl *(Board of Excise)*, i fod yn Gyllidydd. Mr. Owen a'i hattebodd gan ddweyd y gwnai fe ei oreu, ac ymhen ychydig drachefn dywedodd ei fod wedi rhoddi'r gorchwyl yn llaw Lord Cholmondeley yr hwn oedd wr cymmeradwy gyd phlaid y Llys. Mae hynny ar ddechreu Mehefin, ag etto ni chlywais byth ail son; rwy'n ofni i'r ddau oedi onide mi a gawswn orchymyn i fyned tan addysg cyn hyn. A oes fodd yn y byd i chwi gael gwybod gan un o'r Clerciaid neu un o Swyddogion y Bwrdd, a ydyw fy enw i wedi ei draddodi iddynt ai nad ydyw? Ag os ydyw, a ydyw yn dderbyniol ganddynt? Canys ias yw i ddyn fod mewn amheuaeth cŷd o amser. Mae brawd i Lord Cholmondeley yn un o'r *Commissioners*, mae'n ddiammau y gwyr hwnnw, a ddarfu i'w frawd ef fy nghrybwyll i wrthynt, ai nad do? Mae'r erfyniad Saesnaeg tufewnol (fel y gwelwch) yn dymuno ffafr Mr. Cholmondeley am wybodaeth o hynny. Er mwyn pob cyfeillgarwch os nad ydyw Mr. Cholmondeley yn byw yn anghysbell iawn oddiwrthych, torrwch i ffwrdd oddiwrth y llythyr ag annerchwch, a chyfrwyddwch *(direction)* fel y bôch yn deall ei breswylfod, a seliwch i fynu, ag os ydyw'n wr naturiol efe a rydd ichwi atteb yn ol ei wybodaeth, yr hyn a ewyllysiwn ichwi wneuthur cynted ag y bo modd, ag i minnau glywed y canlyniad mewn llythyr oddiwrthych ar fyrder, fydd anesmwyth ddisgwyliad eich aml flinwr

Mr. Owen Jones, WALLTER MECHAIN.
No. 148, Upper Thames Street, London.
[Postmark, "SHREWSBURY"; Postage, "6 paid."]

TRANSLATION.—LETTER VIII.

Llanfechain, August 4th, 1790.

Success in this world to Owen Myfyr and his family, and happiness in the world to come, is the earnest prayer of his bounden servant, Gwallter Mechain.

From the St. Asaph Eisteddfod until now I have been postponing writing to you, from week to week, expecting the return of Mr. Edward Jones, the Harpist, to London, with whom I intended to send three letters, one to you, another to the Society, and the third to Mr. W. Owen. But Mr. E. J. is still at the Henblas. I expect to see him this week, for I have transcribed about fifty ancient Awdls and Cywydds for him. My intention will be fulfilled by him; and I hope Mr. W. Owen will pardon me for not replying to his letter earlier.

Many of my relatives in this neighbourhood are very unwilling for me to take to the Excise, and my intent has been so strong upon it. One of the letters sent me by Mr. W. Owen being *franked* by a strange gentleman, they thought it contained an order for my immediate departure, and so they kept it from me for two months. I had nothing to do but subdue my anger and put on a cheerful face. I shall send by Mr. E. Jones two or three subscribers' names for the *Dictionary*, that is all I can do, as it has so happened to me.

A gentleman asked Mr. W. Owen, the Member for this County of Montgomery, to intercede with the Board of Excise for an appointment to be an officer. Mr. Owen replied that he would do his best. Shortly after, he replied again, and said that he had requested Lord Cholmondeley, who had interest with the Treasury. This was about the beginning of June; but I have heard not a word since. I am afraid both have forgotten the matter, else I should be under instruction before this. Have you any means of ascertaining through one of the clerks, or a member of the Board, if my name has been presented to them, and if I am likely to be successful. It is very cheerless to be kept in suspense such a length of time. Lord Cholmondeley's brother is one of the Commissioners. I have no doubt but that he knows whether my name has been presented or not. The inclosed memorial prays the favour of Mr. Cholmondeley for information. For the sake of every friendship, if Mr. Cholmondeley does not live very far off from you, forward this to his address, sealed. If he is of a generous nature he will reply to your letter. I wish this to be done as soon as you possibly can, that I may hear without any delay. I shall be uneasy until I hear from you.

Your frequent troublesome suitor,

Mr. Owen Jones. GWALLTER MECHAIN.

LETTER IX.—*Add. MSS.* 15,024.

Y CYMDEITHASOL YWAIN,—Ni chlywais i air etto ond a glywais ganddoch chwi ynghylch y Gyllidawl swydd. Rwy'n rhwymedig i chwi am eich trafferth, nis gwn i a glywsoch chwi ddim yn rhagor canys 'rwyf ar ddrain; ond nid hwyrach fy mod yn gwirio yr hen air, "Fel pysgodyn gloywyn glan yn neidio i'r tan o'r badell." Ond rwy'n chwennych bwrw fy nghoelbren doed a ddel. Mae'n ddiammau genyf ma'i rhy ddiofal fu Mr. Owen, ac na siaradodd erioed a Mr. Cholmondeley. Gwnewch eich goreu da chwi, am gael atteb y Cyllidydd Cholmondeley os na chawsoch eisoes. Cefais lythyr ddoe oddiwrth D. Ddu.

Os ydyw Traethawd Gildas i gael ei argraphu gwneler hyny yn ebrwydd, cyn yr el yn hen chwedl. Cyntaf ag y clywaf oddiwrthych nesaf, mi yrraf y traethawd ichwi. Nid wyf yn petruso na wnaethai fe yn dda os cyhoeddir yn ddioed, cyn y bo gweithiau eraill ar "Ryddid" yn gyhoeddus.

Gwelwch fy marn am y testunau, "Gwirionedd", ar "Defodau Bryttanaidd", yn annerch y Gymdeithas; dymnuwn destun yn lle y Defodau Bryttanaidd; ond testyn hynod yw Gwirionedd, be bai'r llall naill ai Cenfigen, Cariad, neu ryw rai o'r nwydau tueddol i anian dŷn. Nid oes genyf air Cymraeg iawn, yn awr, am y gair Saesonaeg, *Fame*; bydde hwnnw yn destyn hynod ar Ryddiaith; mi scrifennwn arno dan ganu. Disgwyliaf glywed eich meddwl cynted ag y bo modd. Cefais fy nghospi yn ddiweddar a chyfraith am bennill a ganwyd ers chwech o flynyddoedd gan eulun Bardd hefyd. Nis gwn i par hanes i roddi i chwi am yr Eisteddfod; roeddwn i wedi blino yn teithio gan belled a 50 o filldiroedd ar draed, ar hin gwlybyrog iawn. Roedd mynyddoedd Hiraethog ddigon a thori calon, ac hefyd yn myned tan crynu, canys roeddwn wedi derbyn llythyr o Dreffynon, i'm rhybuddio i fod ar fy nis gwylfa, gan fod Barnes o Lanelwy a'r Nant wedi uno, i'm rhwygo yn garaiau os gwnai gogangerdd hynny; ond er bygwth pob peth fu dawel, y naill yn ofni y llall am a wn I. Digwyddoedd D. Ddu, yn Ll . . . . yn amryfus roddi yn fy llaw, yn lle ryw bapur arall, lythyr oddiwrth y cyfaill Gw. Owain atto ef, yn traethu iddo mai "Phileleutheros" oedd y Cadairfardd. Ag yn chwanegu mai Gwallter oedd "Gildas" a'r "Bardd Cwsg." Mi anfonais i mor ddirgel ag y medrwn, yn wahanol oddiwrth eu gilydd, ag a newidiais y sel ar y cwyr, ag au hanfonais efo llaw neilltuol. E wridodd D. er dued oedd gan geisio gennyf ei roddi yn ol iddo cyn ei ddarllain, ond ni chymeraswn goron er hynny. Roedd yn yr Eisteddfod lythyrau oddiwrth amryw o aelodau'r Gymdeithas; roedd un dan enw "Gair yn eu amser" oddiwrth un Ed. Charles yn rhoi cynghorion buddiol pe gedwid ond yn llawn o hunan dderchafiad. E ddaeth yno fflangell i'r Mechain, a'r hen fardd o Graig y Gath, oddiwrth un J. Jones. Amcenais unwaith yrru gair o atteb iddo, ond wrth feddwl mai wrth sengyd ar gors neu siglenydd, na cheir ond budredd. Y Du a minnau ni chanasom ar y testynau disyfyd yno namyn tri thestyn o ran boddio'r Gynulleidfa. Nid oedd lle i'r Nant golli'r Gadair. Mae Gwirionedd yn destyn pwrpasol iddo, os gâd Gwenwyn iddo ganu. E orfoleddodd gymaint pan farnwyd y Gadair iddo, fel ac y clafychodd ag nad alloedd eistedd ynddi, ag ni hybodd etto am a wn I. Nis gwn I ai D. Ddu Feddyg oedd gwir awdwr ei Folawd yn mhapur Caer, ac yn y

Gent. Magazine, am Orphenaf diweddaf. Os dê, anaml y mae ei well am farddoniaeth Seisonaeg.

Rwy'n colli wythnos gron o amser bob Eisteddfod, oddeutu'r ffordd a'i chanol; mi a feddwais yn erchyll yn Rug wrth ddychwelyd adre', a thrannoeth cenais ir gwppan gorn, yr hon a enwir Buwch Rûg.

Byddwch wych. Mi wyf eich rhwymedig wasanaethwr mewn dyled. WALTER DAVIES.

Hydref 19, 1790.

1. "Buwch wrol nerthol ei nod—ungyrnig,
Ag arni ryfeddod,
Rhois i fardd rhy aswi fod,
Ag un corn ugain cernod.

2. "Ar ruthrog, gorniog ar gais—annoethodd,
Neithiwr yr ymleddais,
Ac yn diwedd lwyredd lais,
I dommen y codymais.

3. "Tommen dail, lle twymyn dân,—i Gwallter.
Le gwelltog aniddan,
Câs golled cysgu allan,
Gwael glod yn lle gwely glân."

Mr. Owen Jones,
148, Upper Thames Street, London.

ARWYRAIN YWAIN MYFYR.[1]

Add. MSS. 15,024.

1. Llym! y mae'r Awen yn llemmain,—o'm mewn,
A'm mynwes yn llefain;
Am fawl gwr, ymafael gain,
Hael o ryw, elwir Owain.

2. Perffaith wir araeth Arwyrain,—gynnil
Nid gweniaith anghywrain;
Ond purdeb cyssondeb sain,
Is awyr sy' i Owain.

3. Agwrdd y molais ugain,—neu ragor
O oreugwyr urddain;
A mawrglod megis mur glain
Mwy o lawer! mawl Owain.

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[1] This ode, in praise of Owen Myfyr, is attached to this letter of October 19, 1790.—T. W. H.

4. Ar bryddest loyw ddestl ddistain—a llywydd
Llewyrch Beirdd i'w harwain;
Mygr ei ddadl, trwyadl mewn train
Cû o syw, cês i Owain.

5. Glyw cu i amryw o Cymrhain—addas
Wyneddwyr mewn cydsain;
Nid rhyw wreng rhy ddreng ar ddrain,
Ni cheir un na châr Owain!

6. Por celfydd yn peri coelfain—i Fardd
Ofer-ddwl o Fechain;
O'm gwenir lleddir a llain,
Ceir fi, yn caru f' Owain.

7. Mae ymgais malais milain—ag adlais
Gan udelwyr yn ubain;
Er plyg i ryfyg y rhain
Ni chai amgenach Owain.

8. Aml sêr a'u hoywder oddain,—dehau
Hyd duedd y Dwyrain;
Aml i'w canfod tywod tain
Aml yw fy mawl i Owain.

9. Tra cyflym wiwlym rhed Edain—arddôl
Tra ddilwfr cerdd Ednain;
Tra bo gwres ym mynwes main,
Mil fwy! y molaf Owain.

10. Tra dygyfor môr, tra mirain—Eos
Tra awyr uwch Brydain;
Tra llithra cerdda deifr Cain[1]
O cai fyw cofiai Owain.

11. Er gwychder llawnder Llundain—a'i chaerau
Wych oror fal Rhufain!
Nid yw'r byd ond munyd main!
Duw ddaw a diwedd, Owain!

12. I ymchwel cyn dêl dylain,—a drwgwaedd
Dragwyddol wylofain;
Yn ceisio Nef, gwiwnef gain,
A bodd Duw, bydded Owain.

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[1] The River Cain in Mechain.

TRANSLATION.—LETTER IX.

THE FRIEND YWAIN,—I have heard nothing but what you sent me about the Excise appointment. I am greatly indebted to you for your trouble. I do not know whether you have heard anything more, for I am on thorns; perhaps I shall have to verify the old adage, "From the frying-pan into the fire". However, come what may, I shall throw my lot into it. I have no doubt but that Mr. Owen has been careless, and that he has not seen Mr. Cholmondeley. Do your best, good you, to have an answer from the Commissioner Cholmondeley.

I had a letter yesterday from D. Ddu. If the Gildas Essay is to be printed, let that be done quickly, before it goes an old story. As soon as I hear from you I will send the *Essay*. I do not doubt that if it were published at once it would take, before others on "Liberty" appear. You will notice my opinion about "Truth", and the "Customs of the Britons", in my Address to the Society. I should have preferred another subject to that of the "Customs". "Truth" is a great subject, and ought to stand in company with others of the same character as Envy, Love, or one of the human passions. I have not an expressive Welsh word as equivalent to the English word "Fame". That would be a capital subject for prose. I would write upon it like a song. I should like your opinion soon. I was lately punished by law for a stanza that had been written about six years ago by a "model bard". I do not know what history of the Eisteddfod to give you. I was tired travelling fifty miles on foot through very bad weather. The mountains of Hiraethog were enough to damp one's courage; and as I went I felt some shocks of nervousness by the information I had in a letter from Holywell, warning me that Barnes of St. Asaph, and the Nant, had joined hands to rip me into thongs, that is, if satire could do it. The threat, however, came to nothing; all was peace, each was afraid of the other, I think. It happened, unfortunate for D. Ddu in St. Asaph, he gave me by mistake for another paper a letter from our friend W. Owen to him, telling him that "Phileleutheros" was the chaired bard, and further informing him that Walter was Gildas, and the Bardd Cwsg. I sent, as disguised as I could, both, separate and different, altering the seals and the wax, and they were sent by special hands. D. *blushed*, though he was "black", and requested me to return it, before reading, but I should not have taken a crown to do that. There were letters from several members of the Society. There was one signed "Ed. Charles", giving useful cautions, but full of self. A whip was sent there

for the Mechain, and for the old bard of Craig y Gâth, by one J. Jones.[1] I once thought of making reply to it, but I recollected that by treading a bog (*gors*), or a quagmire, one only gets dirt for his trouble.

The "Du" and I attempted only a few of the impromptu subjects to please the audience. There was no chance for the Nant to lose the chair. The subject suited him so well. He was so overcome with joy when it was announced that the Chair was his, that he got actually ill, and could not occupy it; and he has not yet recovered that I know. I am not sure but that *D. Ddu Feddyg* was the writer of the panegyric to the Nant in the Chester paper, and in the *Gentleman's Magazine* for July last. If so, he has a happy knack for English poetry. I lose a full week every Eisteddfod. At Rug they made me drink out of the *horn cup*, which they call *Buwch Rug* (the Rug Cow), that I was quite knocked over by it.

Fare you well. I am your bounden and indebted Servant,

Oct. 19, 1790. WALTER DAVIES.

Mr. Owen Jones.

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[1] *Alias* "Glanygors".

(*To be continued*)

THE PARISH OF FORDEN.

By REV. J. E. VIZE, M.A., F.R.M.S., Vicar of Forden.

(*Continued from* Vol. xv, p. 182.)

IV.—Ecclesiastical.

Forden, formerly a Chapelry, now a Vicarage, is situated in the diocese of Hereford, and, in common with Churchstoke and the various churches and chapels which have been founded at Montgomery, Snead, and Hyssington, was originally an affiliation of the church of St. Michael of Chirbury. At the time of Domesday only two churches and one priest were reckoned amongst the adjuncts of the Manor of Chirbury; one of these churches was at Churchstoke, which was a mere affiliation of the greater church of Chirbury.[1]

When Forden Chapel was founded does not appear, but, as it is not included in Pope Nicholas' Taxation of 1291, it must have been founded subsequently to that date. In the *Valor Ecclesiasticus* of 1534-5, when Oliver Middleton, Prior of Chirbury, rendered an account of the income of his house, the tithes of the Chapelry of Forden are returned at £15 6*s.* 8*d.*[2] Two years later, the minister's accounts value Fordyn Chapel at £13 14*s.* 11*d.* per annum.[3] Upon the dissolution of the monasteries, the Priory of Chirbury lapsed to the Crown, which, from time to time, made various grants of the tithes. In a note of enrolments at the Land Revenue Rolls, Spring Gardens, the following had grants or reversionary interests of Forden tithes :—

On the 20 March, 28 Henry VIII, John Awynger had a grant of the tithes of Forden.

[1] Eyton's *Antiq. of Shropshire*, vol. xi, 65. [2] *Ibid.*, p. 63.
[3] *Ibid.*, vol. xi, p. 153.

On the 24 April, 7 Edward VI, John Roberts had a grant of the same.

On the 8 June, 8th Eliz., the Queen granted them for thirty-one years to Henry Mackwilliam, Esquire, gentleman pensioner, and Mary his wife commonly called the Lady Mary Cheeke (widow of Sir John Cheeke).

Ludovick Lloyd's grant of the same in the 29 Eliz. must have been reversionary, as that of Mackwilliam would not expire until the 39 Eliz.

In the 29 Eliz., 31 May, "By letters patent, the Queen, of her Maiesties speciall grace, certain knowledge, and meere motion, did graunt and to fearme sett (for forty years) unto Ludovick Lloyd esquier, then one of her Maiestie's seriant-at-armes, amongst other things; all that then chapell of Ffording al's Fforden . . . . . all manner of Tythes of corne and hey and all other tyethes in great Heme, little Heme, Kelekewith, Ffording, Nantcreba, Penylan, Brinkendrithe, Akley, Lettinwynwarethe, sometymes belonging unto the late Prior of Chirbury", which had been granted on the 8 June, 8th Eliz. to "one Henry Mackwilliam, one of the gentlemen pensioners unto her Maiestie, and Mary his wief otherwise called the Lady Cheke, one of the gentlewomen of her Maiestie's pryvy chamber. The said Ludovick Lloyd, his executors and assigns, to finde and provyde one sufficient and fitt Chapleyne to celebrate divine service and to take the cure of soules in the said chapell of Ffording yerely."[1]

Lady Ann Myddleton, probably the widow of Sir Thomas Myddleton, Lord Mayor of London (father of Sir

[1] Ludovick Lloyd had an elder brother, Richard Lloyd of Marrington, who married Lucy, daughter of Richard Powell of Ednop, Sergeant-at-Arms to Henry VIII and Sheriff of Montgomery for the years 1554 and 1555. Robert Lloyd, uncle of Ludovick Lloyd, and the fourth son of David Lloyd of Marrington, was the owner of Nantcribba (*Mont. Coll.*, vol. vi, p. 107). Henry Lord Stafford, Baron of Cause Castle, confirmed 8 June, 35 Henry VIII, the grant made to his ancestor by Humphrey Stafford, Duke of Buckingham (*Ib.*, p. 108). The Rev. Peter Lloyd, fourth in descent from Richard and Lucy, was Vicar of Forden from 1688 to 1721. On a memorial

Thomas Myddleton, Knight, of Chirk Castle, the Parliamentary General) became possessed of the advowson of the Chapelry of Forden, and by her Will, dated 20th of May, 1645, bequeathed the same to the Grocers' Company, London, who are the present Patrons of the living[1] and the Impropriate Rectors.

The gross Rent Charge payable to the Tithe-owners in lieu of Tithes for the parish of Forden is £462 13*s.* 3*d.*, made up as follows:

To the Wardens and Commonalty of Grocers of the City of London	£327	19	9
Robert John Harrison	82	10	0
Edward Humphreys	29	18	6
Thomas Higginson	22	0	0
Rev. John M. Edwards	0	5	0
	£462	13	3

The Vicar's income is derived from the following sources:

1. A part of the tithes under Lady Myddleton's will, paid by the Grocers' Co.	£22	18	0
2. Queen Anne's Bounty	57	2	0
3. Glebe land (21 acres, 1 pole, 9 perches) renting at	39	0	0
	£119	0	0
A voluntary payment by the Grocers' Company to make up the Vicar's income to £300 per annum	181	0	0
	£300	0	0

The church is dedicated to St. Michael the Archangel, and the festival is on the 29th September.

brass on the chancel wall of the old church of Forden was the following:—"Petrus Lloyd hujus Ecclesiæ quondam minister obiit tertio die Julii 1721 ætatis anno 55." The Rev. Peter Lloyd was the grandfather of the late John Lloyd of "The Wood", in the parish of Forden, who died on the 27th Feb., 1831, aged 88 (*Mont. Coll.*, vol. iii, p. 324).

[1] "Dame Anne Myddleton, late of Rothamsted, widow," as she is

The old church, which was pulled down in 1867, had undergone many changes. We hope to be enabled to give a view of the old church, and also a ground plan of it previous to the year 1831.

In the year 1795 there is a list of the numbers of new pews and sittings in Forden Church, with the proprietors' names to each pew and sitting. This was in consequence of new pews having been put in the church in the previous year, 1794. Amongst those who rented the pews were the Earl of Powis; Rev. John Pryce, Gaer; Viscount Hereford; Lord Tracy; Rev. Mr. Pryce, Gunley; Chirbury School. Lord Hereford had 30, for which he paid ; Rev. Mr. Price, Gunley, had 34 ; Lord Tracy had 24 ; Lord Powis, 1. Altogether there were 41 pews, yielding 209 sittings. These sittings were paid for, as it is mentioned that one occupier owed £2 5*s.* for unpaid sittings. It is also stated that the sittings, including the new gallery, amounted to £174 3*s.* 4*d.* A vestry meeting was held in June 1801, when it was decided to request the Archdeacon to procure the consecration of some spot near the House of Industry for the burial of the inmates who died there. This was necessary in consequence of the enormous number of deaths which occurred there at that time. The Parish itself was free from epidemic, but the mortality in the House of Industry was so great that it became necessary to enlarge Forden churchyard, and the additional ground was given by the Rev. John Pryce of the Gaer, who owned the adjoining property.

In 1815 the weathercock was placed on the old church.

In 1830 the church was enlarged by the addition of a transept at the north side, by means of which 170 additional sittings were obtained ; and in consequence of a grant from the Incorporated Society, 100 of that number (viz., the whole new gallery in the transept) were

styled in her will, seems to have been previously married, as Sir John Wittewronge of Rothamsted, Co. Stafford, knight, is styled "*son*, heir, and executor of Dame Anne Myddleton".

Mont. Coll., Vol. xvi, to face p. 196.

FORDEN OLD CHURCH.

declared to be free and unappropriated for ever, in addition to 50 formerly provided, viz., those in the old gallery in the west end of the church. When this extra accommodation was made, the pulpit, reading desk, and clerk's desk were removed to the south side; a passage was made where pews formerly stood at the north side, into the new transept, and two new pews were made at the north side opposite the door. These changes necessitated a re-allotment of the seats in many instances. The expenses of these alterations amounted to £371 2*s.*, made up as follows:

Sundry subscriptions	£83	0	0
Sale of pews	185	12	0
Grant from Society for Promoting Enlargement of Churches	100	0	0
Sale of ash trees in churchyard	2	10	0
Total	£371	2	0

In 1842 the church steeple was repaired. In 1843 the sum of £3 7*s.* 5½*d.* was paid for the iron gates at the entrance of the churchyard.

The extension of the churchyard from time to time, three instances of which are recorded, has necessarily tended to give the place a want of compactness and uniformity. The old yew trees still indicate the most ancient part of the yard. There is nothing left to mark the site of the old church, and the spot where the chancel is believed to have stood is at present very desolate. It lies to the south of the new church, and, since the demolition of the old church immediately after the consecration of the new one, has nothing to define its precise boundaries. Nevertheless, it contains the remains of the oldest families of the parish of Forden. There are the ashes of some of the Hereford family in leaden coffins, as well as others. Every year makes it more difficult to ascertain the exact locality of the old chancel. It has been attempted to set it out three times, but each time the boundaries have

varied. In digging a grave a coffin was exposed, but it was not disturbed, another place being chosen. It is difficult for incumbents to prevent encroachment on a vacant part of a burial ground. It is much to be regretted that the old chancel was not scrupulously marked out and enclosed when the old walls were taken down, and, moreover, that the tablets and other mementoes of the departed dead were not preserved, instead of being (as they were with one exception) given up as the perquisite of the contractor.

In 1865, the old church was taken down, owing to the walls being unsafe, through the weight of the gallery and other causes, and a new church built on a different site. The new parish church of Forden is dedicated to St. Michael. The plan comprises a nave, with north and south isles ; a chancel, sacristy, and organ chamber, a tower attached to the western end of the south aisle, and an apparatus vault for warming the church, under the sacristy. The inside dimensions of the church are :—

Nave .	52 ft. 6 in. long by 22 ft. wide
Aisles (each)	52 „ 6 „ „ „ 9 „ 6 in. „
Chancel .	30 „ „ „ 17 „ 6 „ „
Sacristy .	13 „ 6 „ „ „ 8 „ „
Organ chamber	10 „ square.

The style of the church is after that which prevailed during the reign of the first Edward—being transitional from Early English to Decorated. The nave is divided from the aisles by bays of four arches on each side, the arches being carried upon circular pillars, finished with octagonal capitals, enriched with carved crocketted foliage. The chancel is entered by an arch about 16 ft. wide, carried upon shafted corbels, resting upon sculptured heads, and finished with carved capitals. Two similar arches of smaller dimensions, open into the organ chamber, the one towards the chancel, the other towards the body of the church. The roofs are all open to view, and are of trussed rafter construction, finished with oak moulded cornices. The roof over the chancel

is ornamentally divided into bays, by arched moulded ribs and purlines, decorated with carved pateras at the intersections. The west front is pierced with a three-light rose-headed window in the centre at the end of the nave, the roses trefoiled and sexfoiled; and two two-light windows at the ends of the aisles; and is divided into compartments by buttresses, finished with pedimental heads. The east end of the chancel has also a three-light window with three equal-sized roses in the head, sexfoiled; and the south side two two-light windows with trefoil tracery in the heads; and a priest's door. The aisles are lighted with a three-light and two two-light rose-headed windows on each side, the three-light windows being thrown up under gables, transept-wise. All the gables are coped with stone, finished with crosses, excepting the last gable of the nave, upon which is built a cote for a sanctus bell. The walls of the church generally are built with stone of the district, but all the external decorative features and dressings are of Minera stone, and the internal of Coombe Down stone; the face work to the inside and outside being varied by bands and relieving arches of red Grinshill stone, of which stone the alternate boussoirs in the nave chancel and other arches are formed. The floors are laid with wood under the sittings, and with tiles to the alleys and chancel floor. Five steps lead up from the nave to the sacrarium. The nave and aisles are seated with pitch pine benches, and the chancel with oak stalls. The pulpit is of stone, arcaded with trefoil arches on pillars, and diapered in the spandrils. The chancel is furnished on the south side with sedilia, and on the north side with a credence bracket. When the tower was built, it was intended to have added a spire, but the want of funds prevented the accomplishment of this object.

The rebuilding of the church cost £3,259 2*s.* 7*d.*, which was principally contributed by the following donations, the rest raised by smaller subscriptions and church collections:—

The Worshipful the Grocers' Company	£400
Borrowed on the Rates	320
Rev. R. J. Harrison	300
John Naylor, Esq.	300
Lord Sudeley	250
Mrs. Edmunds, Edderton	250
Mrs. Pryce, Gunley	175
A Thank-offering	150
Lieut.-Colonel Pryce	105
The Earl of Powis	100
Hereford Church Building Society	75
Miss Mytton	55
George Edmunds, Esq.	50
Rev. R. M. Edwards	50
R. J. Edmunds, Esq., Edderton	30
E. Humphreys, Esq., Walcot	30
Ven. Archdeacon Waring	30
Incorporated Church Building Society	25
The Duchess of Northumberland	20
Miss Edmunds, Edderton	20
Mr. Edward Humphreys, Welch-Pool	20

The following were presented to the church :—

The communion table, velvet covering, and stools, by Mrs. Naylor, Leighton Hall; Altar rails, by Miss Scholfield; Altar desk, by Ven. Archdeacon Ffoulkes; linen for communion-table, by Mr. Edward Pryce, Welch-Pool; carpets, by H. Scholfield, Esq., M.D.; kneeling stools for prayer desks, pulpit and font, by Mrs. Scholfield; pulpit desk, by Mrs. Taylor; pulpit sconce and four (alms) dishes, by Miss Harrison; brass eagle lectern, by Miss Mytton; Bible, Prayer Book, and Books of Services, by Rev. B. R. J. Hawkins: Prayer Book, by Master and Miss Harrison; chair, by Rev. R. J. Harrison; sconces for prayer desks, by Rev. P. S. Stanhope. The land for enlargement of the churchyard was given by Lord Sudeley and the Rev. R. J. Harrison.

Since this expenditure on the new church, other money has also been laid out upon internal improvement, viz.:—for the standards, etc., used in lighting the church, £18 7*s.*; a memorial window placed at the east end of the chancel to the memory of the late incumbent, the Rev. R. J. Harrison, and a credence bracket, £255 13*s.*;

an excellent organ, £162; a heating apparatus, £32; total, £468. A sculptured reredos of Bath stone was given by the Rev. R. N. Dennis, late rector of East Blatchington, as a memorial to his deceased step-mother, Mrs. Dennis, who, as a widow, was for many years a valued member of my family. The foundation stone of the church was laid June 19th, 1865, by the Venerable Archdeacon Waring, Archdeacon of Ludlow, and the church was consecrated March 19th, 1867, by the Right Rev. Henry Lord Bishop of Worcester, who attended in the absence of the Bishop of Hereford.

The new church is built so as to seat rather more than 300 persons. The Incorporated Society for building churches granted £25 in 1865 towards rebuilding the church, by means of which grant additional accommodation was obtained for 25 more people. The entire area will accommodate 306 at the least. The seats are subject to allotment by the churchwardens, suitable provision being made for the poorer inhabitants.

Amongst the very few things which remain,[1] belonging to the old church, is an alms-dish, which has the following inscription on it—

"The gift of Miss Christiana Berrow Edmunds of Edderton House to the Parish of Forden, the 12th day of February 1801."

The old communion table, very small and clumsy in shape, is now in the vestry. An oval-shaped font, which was formerly used in the church, is at present in the belfry, and has the following inscription—

"The gift of Rich'd Edmunds, Esq., to the Parish of Forden, 1794."

Its shape being oval renders it probable that it was intended for the total immersion of an infant, and for that purpose seems more suitable than a round one. It is

[1] The Royal Arms which were presented to this Church by Richard Edmunds, Esq., but which were discarded when the Church was restored, are now deposited in the Powys land Museum.

marble, and was given by the owner of Edderton instead of bells which he offered to present, but which the parishioners declined to accept on account of the extra trouble and expense which would be entailed upon the parish. The present bell was handed down from the old church. Its quality was originally good, but it is now cracked, and is one of the few unsatisfactory things we have in the present church. The damage was caused by its being allowed to be used for calling the workmen together for work during the building of the new church, and no accident happened to it until, it is said, within a week of the completion of the church. If the bell were re-cast and a spire added, very little, if any more, would be required to render the church complete.

Monumental Inscriptions.—The porch contains a marble tablet, the only remaining memorial of those that were formerly in the old church, which has the following inscription :

Sacred
To the Memory of
Captain Robert Campbell, R.N.,
Who died at Gunley,
December 27th, 1832, aged 53.
Faithful and firm in duty,
Courteous and kind to all.
"The memory of the just is blessed."—Proverbs x, 7.

Also
To the Memory of
Colonel Hugh Morrison, H.E.I.C.S.,
Who died at Edinburgh,
May 27th, 1859, aged 70.
"Mark the perfect man and behold the upright,
for the end of that man is peace."—Prov. xxxvii, 37.

This tablet is erected as a tribute of love to both, by their widow, Eliza Constantia (eldest daughter of the late Richard Pryce, of Gunley, Esquire), and by her two sons, Lewis and Robert Campbell, in filial gratitude for fond and paternal care.

There are in the churchyard two wooden tablets nailed against one of the yew trees, recording the

burial in 1820 of Ann and Richard Davies, husband and wife, aged respectively, seventy-four and eighty-three years. They are about 1 inch thick and 3 feet high, and were originally nailed to the yew tree, but time has so incorporated them into the tree that its bark overlaps them. They are in a very good state of preservation, and in this respect are likely to survive many of the head stones and tombstones around them, which, although more recent in date, are almost perished. There is a verse of four lines on one tombstone, beginning with an invocation to angels :

> "Kind angels watch this sleeping dust
> Till Christ will come to raise the just ;
> Then may we wake with sweet surprise,
> And in our Saviour's image rise."

There is one eccentric epitaph in the churchyard which is worth recording :

> "Beneath this tree lies singers three,
> One tenor and two basses ;
> Now they are gone, its ten to one
> If three such takes their places."

Although the epitaph mentions three, two only have left their names, one was a Robert Roberts who died aged seventy-two ; the other, John Roberts, who died in 1827, aged eighty-five years.

The following extracts are from the tombstones, etc., in the churchyard :—

In memory of the Reverend Robert John Harrison, for 28 years Incumbent of this Parish, who died September 4th, 1872, aged 59 years.

Elizabeth, wife of the above. She fell asleep in Christ, May 19th, 1858, aged 41 years.

To the revered memory of Cadwallader Williams, Curate of this Parish 21 years, who died January 23rd, 1800, aged 63 years.

In affectionate remembrance of Sarah Frances, wife of Matthew Williams, 20 years Steward and Master of the House of Industry in this Parish. She died January 25th, 1869, aged 58 years.

JOHN EDMUNDS, Esquire, of Edderton House, born 24th September 1797, died 11th August 1858.

Also of MARY EDMUNDS, his wife, who was born December 11th, 1803, and died at Edderton, January 27th, 1868.

Sacred to the memory of LUCY CAROLINE, widow of JAMES TAYLOR, Esq., Bombay Civil Service, born 7th October 1796, died 1st December 1875.

ROBERT CAMPBELL, Commander Royal Navy, one of the best officers in the British Navy, brave and yet most gentle. He died at Gunley, December 27, 1832, aged . . .

(The remainder is illegible).

The Registers are nearly perfect. After the year 1600, for about thirty years, they are a model of neatness; one page, however, has been cut out, evidently with scissors. Many of the entries are in Latin, others in English. Between 1723 and 1734 they are all in Latin, which is the last time that language appears therein. Before this time, during a short period, the entries are irregular as to the English or Latin language; although entered in the same handwriting, they are in either language, generally, however, alternating. Much of the writing is nearly faded away from age and dampness, or from the bad quality of the ink. Using the fluid which Government requires, and indeed compels all registrars to adopt, is a most valuable boon for future ages.

The following is a list of the Registers:

I. Baptisms, Marriages and Burials, 1598 to 1681.
The following years are wanting:—1607 to 1610, 1652, and 1680 to 1681.

II. and III. Ditto 1681 to 1747; year 1745 defective.

IV. and V. Ditto 1745 to 1812; the years 1748 to 1750 appear to have been torn out.

VI. Ditto, Marriages 1754 to 1812.

VII. Baptisms alone, 1813 to 1841.

VIII. Ditto 1841 to 1877.

IX. Ditto 1878 to the present time.

x. Marriages alone, 1813 to 1837.
xiii. Ditto 1837 to the present time.
xiv. Burials alone 1813 to 1849.
xv. Ditto 1848 to the present time.

The Register of the birth of paupers in the Montgomery and Pool House of Industry is also kept in a book in the Vestry, beginning from the opening of the House in 1795 to May 1845. There are 487 items. The following particulars are given, viz., the number, the names, whether legitimate or base, names of parents, settlements, when born, when and where baptised, with remarks; then an ordinary church baptismal register is kept from 1844 to present time. Also the register of deaths of paupers is recorded in the same book from 1795 to 1845, giving the progressive number in the register—persons' names and settlements, ages, when died, diseases, when and where buried, remarks. After this, a corresponding church register is kept.

Extracts from the Parish Books.—Amongst the parish accounts as passed in vestry are the following items:

1745.	For keeping ye dogs out of church .	£0	2	6
	P'd ye parson for Baptizeing ye child	0	1	0
1748.	P'd to a cripple yt came in ye parish and cold not go out of it .	0	0	6
	P'd Henry Oliver for carrying him out of ye parish . .	0	0	6
1750.	P'd Widdow Bratton for tending Jno. Hughes . . .	0	1	0
	For one pound of Treakcle for him .	0	0	2
1758.	Layd out for the Funerall of the Tinker's widdow . .	0	16	6
1763.	For kiling a wild cat . .	0	1	0
1764.	Sp't concerning wellings at yt church house . . .	0	2	6
1771.	P'd for killing a Wild Cat .	0	1	0
1775.	P'd for a Bassoon . .	3	13	6
1777.	P'd for the Sundial . .	1	11	6
1778.	Paid for the Baptizeing of Alice Parry's child . . .	0	1	6

1792.	Paid for ½ ounce of thread to mend the surplice . . .	£0	0	6½
1796.	Paid postage of a Letter from Grocers' Co. in London concerning Mr. Williams' salary after the death of the Rev. Mr. Powell . .	0	0	7
1795.	Spent shifting font and takeing Dimensions of Gallery to put up hat rails . . .	0	1	0
	Paid for Curtains for singing gallery	0	7	9
	Paid for locks, curtain rings, &c. .	0	14	5½
	Paid for making the new curtains and altering the old ones .	0	1	6
1810.	Paid the blind girl for singing .	0	5	0
1823.	Paid for the Psalm singers for 2 years' dinners . . .	4	10	0
1843.	Lost by the light sovereigns .	0	7	0
1853.	Paid for an artificial leg . .	0	15	0

I notice a singular memorandum which occurs at the baptismal entries. It is in the year 1783, just before an October entry. The remark is "christened since the commencement of the tax." We do not know what tax is here referred to.

About thirty or forty years ago, notices of parish meetings and vestries used to be given by one of the singers, who, after singing in the gallery with the choir, and when his services for giving notices were needed, used to make a point of being the first to leave the church, so as to be in his customary position under one of the yew trees in the churchyard, from which he announced to the people the coming parish events. The reason of this was, he told me himself, because the parishioners could not read the notices convening the meetings placed on the church doors.

Benefactions.—In 1748, Arthur Devereux bequeathed the sum of £100 for the purpose of educating two poor boys in Forden. He was the second or third son of George Devereux, who married the heiress of Vaynor. This Arthur Devereux[1] was of Nantcribba, and his will

[1] Among other bequests he leaves £50 a piece to the eight children of his niece, Mary, wife of Thomas Kerry (? of Binweston) ;

is dated 15th August 1709, by which he leaves Nantcribba to Arthur, son of his brother Vaughan Devereux. This legacy of £100 was handed to John Meredith, of Welshpool, on the 16th of October 1757 for investment, who owned to having lent out the money at 4 per cent. to Mr. Jones, of Glanhafren. Some time since, in consequence of a communication from Lord Hereford, I tried to trace what had become of the principal, and also wrote to the Charity Commissioners, but the Statute of Limitation completely blocked all proceedings, and Forden has not, within the memory of any one in the parish, ever received any benefit from the gift. There is only one benefaction existing in the parish, the terms of which are recorded on a stone tablet in the vestry of Forden Church, as follows :—

"Mrs. Hannah Lloyd bequeathed in the year 1692 the sum of £300, a portion of the proceeds of which is directed to be expended annually in the purchase of three overcoats marked on the sleeve with her initials, to be given, on the first Sunday in November, to three poor old decayed people of the Parish of Forden who have lived well, virtuously, and industriously."

By some means the interest of this money had accumulated so much that in 1855 it amounted to £51 13*s.* 4*d.* This sum was placed in the Welshpool Savings Bank, the interest thereupon being properly applied by the late vicar and churchwardens, and duly passed in vestry, with the Forden share of the Glyn Estate rent, in which estate the principal was invested. About the year 1875, the Charity Commissioners claimed the Savings Bank money, and annually send

£100 a piece to the three eldest daughters of Mary Kerry; £50 to the eldest daughter of Captain Hill; £50 to the eldest daughter of his niece, Benbow; £100 to Elizabeth, daughter of his late brother Edward; his father's picture to Mrs. (Bridget) Mytton, his sister; his books and jewels to Lord Hereford; £20 to the eldest daughter of the Rev. Peter Lloyd of Forden; £50 to his niece, Margaret (Mrs. C. Lloyd), daughter of his brother Edward Devereux; £50 to his brother-in-law, Joshua Ireland; his divinity books to Edward Glynne, his nephew, with a great silver tankard and two candlesticks.

the interest, amounting to £1 14*s.* 10*d.*, which, with the rental, which fluctuates, but generally is £2 2*s.* 6*d.*, is, in the main, rightly expended according to the wishes of Mrs. Lloyd.

List of Clergy.—It has been found very difficult to compile the following imperfect list of the perpetual curates, vicars, or other officiating clergy in Forden :

John Rusbach, from 1601 to 1634.
In 1607 Robert Middleton died Curate of Forden (see Forden *Register*).
William Loyd, from 1634 to 1639.
William Hughes is named as minister in 1636.
Richard Evans was minister from 1647 to 1651 (at least).
Morris Collins, 1670 to 1674.
Peter Lloyd, 1688 to 1721.
Owen Owens was minister in 1723.
Rev. Wm. Thomas, curate 1749 to 1777, buried 26th Dec.
Rev. Cadwalader Williams, curate 1779 to 1799.
Charles Williams, curate 1800 to 1828.
Rev. T. Powell is mentioned in 1779, 1789 and 1794; he seems to have been an absentee incumbent, and to have had C. Williams as his curate.
From this time all incumbents have been resident.
Rev. D. Nihill, 1st Perpetual Curate, 1828 to 1836.
Rev. R. Cope Wolfe, 1836 to 1843.
Rev. Edward Ollivant, 1843.
Rev. D. Nihill, 1843 to 1844.
Rev. R. Dawkins, Sept. 1844 to April 1850.
Rev. E. Dyer Green, Sept. 1850 to April 1855.
Rev. R. J. Harrison, 1855 to Sept. 1872; was absent by licence from June 1849 to Decr. 30, 1850, when the name of the *locum tenens* was
Rev. W. Jones Thomas, June 1849 to Decr. 1850.
Rev. B. R. J. Hawkins was curate in 1857 to 1859.
Rev. J. G. Cumming, 1860 to 1862.
Rev. Richd. W. Geldart, 1862 to 1865.
Rev. P. S. Stanhope, 1867 to 1869.
Rev. J. E. Vize, from 1869 to 1872.

Rev. J. E. Vize, The first VICAR from 1872.

(*To be continued.*)

MONTGOMERYSHIRE WORTHIES.

By RICHARD WILLIAMS, F.R.Hist.S., Newtown.

(*Continued from* p. 70.)

Davies, Evan (*Philomath*) of Manafon, the almanack-compiler and publisher, flourished between 1720 and 1750. His almanacks, which for some years were annually printed and published at Shrewsbury, contained summer and Christmas carols, Englynion on various subjects, and other miscellaneous matters.

Davies, Thomas, a poet who flourished about the beginning of the last century, several of whose compositions are published in the *Blodeugerdd* and other collections of that period, among them being "Ystori 'r Crys Gwaedlyd." He is described as "Thomas Davies o Sir Drefaldwyn", which is all I have been able to ascertain of his history.

Dwn, Gruffydd, Henry and Huw, were poets who flourished between 1550 and 1600, and were probably near relatives of Lewys Dwn, the celebrated herald, genealogist and poet.

Dwn, James, was a poet who flourished in the early part of the seventeenth century. Lewys Dwn had a son of that name. I have seen in MS. an ode by him to Lewis ab Dafydd ab Rhys of Barhedyn, Darowen, dated in 1605.

Edwards, William, of Guilsfield, was a poet who flourished about 1740. Some carols of his composition are printed in the almanacks published about that time by Evan Davies (*Philomath*) of Manafon.

Ellis, Samuel, of Irwell Works, Salford, a successful and ingenious mechanic, engineer, and ironfounder, was

born at Melinyrhyd Mill (now altered into a villa), near Cyfronydd, in the spring of 1803. His father, Hugh Ellis, besides keeping the mill at that place, also carried on an extensive business as a millwright and builder, and had eight children, of whom the subject of this notice was the youngest, the late Mr. Hugh Ellis, timber-merchant and builder, Llanfair, being another of them. He attended a school at Castlecaereinion kept by Mr. Thomas Griffiths. He was quick at his lessons, and showed, besides a fondness for poetry (of which he committed a good deal to memory), a remarkable turn for mechanics. Indeed, while yet a mere child, his natural aptitude for mechanical contrivances developed itself in a very striking manner. It is related that when he was but nine years old he took in hand the setting right of a clock which had baffled the efforts of the local clockmaker, and that after taking it to pieces he put it together again and made it go as well as ever. Two years later, he is said to have made with his pocket knife a neat model of a mill, in the construction of which he introduced ingenious contrivances which he explained to his father, who at once saw their utility and thenceforth adopted them in the construction of mill machinery. At an early age he was placed by his father to work with his men and his other sons at the trade of a millwright. While thus employed he read voraciously everything that came in his way, and he was also very fond of sketching during his spare moments. In order to obtain greater facilities for self-improvement he felt a strong desire to go to Manchester—a project, however, which met with strong opposition from his parents. Finding it hopeless to obtain their consent, he started from home one summer morning in 1826 with 7*s.* 6*d.* in his pocket, and walked all the way to Manchester, where he arrived in about three days. He obtained work at once, and by his energy and fidelity he soon gained the confidence of his employers; so that in less than three years he became foreman of more than a hundred men. About

this time he married Miss Fletcher, a young lady of respectable family connections. In 1832, he entered into a working partnership with a Mr. Norton as millwrights and ironfounders. This partnership was dissolved in 1838, when, with his own savings and some pecuniary help from his wife's family, he purchased a large iron foundry known as Irwell Works, Salford, where he commenced business on a large scale on his own account. Here his genius for mechanical invention found full scope. In 1842 he made great improvements in the construction of railway turn-tables and weighing machines, for which in June 1843 he obtained a patent. The turn-tables previously in use were very rickety and unsteady, requiring constant repair as well as causing many inconveniences. Mr. Ellis submitted his invention (the description of which is too technical to be given here) to Mr. Robert Stephenson, who at once pronounced it to be one of the greatest improvements in railway machinery that had ever come under his notice; and he introduced Mr. Ellis to a capitalist, a friend of his own, Mr. Kennard, who became a part proprietor of the patent, and with whose assistance Mr. Ellis was enabled to reap the benefits of his invention. Orders came so thick upon him that his business more than trebled in the course of the next six months, and all the principal railway companies speedily adopted the new machinery on their lines. On the 12th and 13th February 1847, an action, "Ellis and another *v.* Ormerod and another", for infringement of the above patent, was tried in the Court of Queen's Bench before Mr. Justice Erle and a special jury; when, after hearing the evidence of Mr. Stephenson, Mr. Bidder, and other eminent men, a verdict was taken by consent for the plaintiffs upon all the issues but one, thereby in all respects establishing his patent, and for the defendant on the plea of Not Guilty, it being admitted that what had been done by him was not an infringement of the plaintiffs' rights. About the same time (1847), Mr. Ellis perfected an invention for better adapting travelling

cranes for general use on railways, which greatly extended his already very large business. In 1848, he bought the Palace Mill in Llanymowddwy, and contemplated buying more property in that neighbourhood. He also took an active part in public affairs, and was a member of the Salford Town Council for some years prior to his death. His fame and prosperity continued rapidly to extend with his increasing business; so much so as not to allow of his taking sufficient rest and relaxation. The warnings of his physician, unhappily, were not attended to in time. After a few years of constant strain and incessant toil his health utterly broke down, and after a lingering illness he died at his private residence, Bar Hill House, Pendleton, on the 6th April 1852 at the comparatively early age of forty-nine years. He was buried at Pendlebury churchyard, near Manchester. His widow, who is still living, and six young children (three sons and three daughters) survived him. His old works are still carried on by his nephews, Messrs. H. and J. Ellis, the patentees of the latest improved travelling cranes.—(*Ex inf.*, Mr. Samuel Ellis, etc.)

Ellis, Thomas, a remarkable Orientalist, was born in Lower Street, Llanfyllin, about the year 1819. His father, John Ellis, was a shoemaker, and he himself in his youth worked at the same trade. He was a queer boy, reserved in his ways, and would not play with other boys, who did not consider him endowed with the ordinary amount of sense. He was not particularly clever at his lessons, and when he became a shoemaker he was, it is said, like his father, a very poor workman. From Llanfyllin he went to Liverpool, where it seems he worked for some time at his trade, but like "Dick Aberdaron" (whom he appears to have resembled both as to his gifts and eccentricities) he was of a rambling turn. How or when he began to study Oriental languages does not appear, but he evidently soon developed a remarkable aptitude in that direction. The next we hear of him is that he was employed by the

late Mr. Bagster, about the years 1848 to 1850, in reading for the press his editions of the *Hebrew Scriptures*, the *Syriac New Testament*, the *Analytical Hebrew and Chaldee Lexicon*, Gesenius's *Hebrew Lexicon*, etc. From the beginning of 1851 to the date of his death he was employed at the British Museum in arranging and cataloguing the Museum collection of Syriac MSS.—a work, however, which he failed to complete before his death. At this time he had acquired the reputation of being a very remarkable Hebrew, Chaldee, and Syriac scholar, and as such Mr. (now Sir Henry) Layard, who had brought home some jars and bowls from the ruins of Babylon, on which were some curious ancient inscriptions, sought his assistance to decipher the latter. Mr. Layard, in his *Discoveries in the Ruins of Nineveh and Babylon* (Murray, 1853), gives a full and interesting account, extending over sixteen or seventeen pages of these antiquities and the inscriptions upon them. Among other things there were some specimens of glass and several terra cotta figure lamps and jars dug out of a mound at Amran, which were considered to be of the time of the Seleucidæ or of the Greek occupation. "With these relics were five cups or bowls of earthenware and fragments of others, covered on the inner surface with letters written in a kind of ink. Similar objects had already been found in other Babylonian ruins. Two from the collection of the late Mr. Stewart had been deposited in the British Museum, and amongst the antiquities recently purchased by the Trustees from Col. Rawlinson are eight specimens obtained at Baghdad, where they are sometimes offered for sale by the Arabs; but it is not known from what sites they were brought. The characters upon them are in form not unlike the Hebrew, and on some they resembled the Sabæan and Syriac. The bowls had not attracted notice, nor had the inscriptions upon them been fully examined, before they were placed in the hands of Mr. Thomas Ellis of the Manuscript Department in the British Museum, a gentleman of great learning and ingenuity as a Hebrew

scholar. He succeeded, after much labour, in deciphering the inscriptions, and I will now give in his own words an account of these singular relics." [Here follow fifteen or sixteen pages of letterpress description, partly in Hebrew characters, with eight engravings.] "As to the original use of these vessels, it is not improbable, as conjectured by Mr. Ellis, that the writing was to be dissolved in water to be drank as a cure against disease or a precaution against the arts of witchcraft and magic." Mr. Layard, however, did not himself entertain this view, but thought the relics were charms buried with the dead. The inscriptions given in the woodcuts are stated to be as nearly as possible facsimiles of the originals reduced, copied by Mr. Scharf under the superintendence of Mr. Ellis. Mr. Ellis had been brought up a strict Calvinistic Methodist, and retained his membership in London for some time, and occasionally attended the Welsh Chapel in Jewin Crescent up to the time of his death. Beyond this, and that he once visited his native place for a short time, when he was apparently in good circumstances, very little is known of his personal history. He seems to have led a somewhat solitary life. He died in London about the end of the year 1856, aged about thirty-seven years.—(*Ex. inf.*, Sir A. H. Layard ; Dr. Bond ; Rev. Canon Williams ; M. P. Jones, Esq., etc.)

Evans, David Morier, a well-known journalist and author of numerous works on commercial subjects, was the son of Mr. Joshua Lloyd Evans, of Llanidloes, but was born in London in the year 1819. From an early age he was intimately connected with periodical literature. After being for several years assistant City correspondent of *The Times*, he assumed, in 1857, the management of the same department of the *Morning Herald* and *Standard*, which post, and also that of general manager, he retained until the end of 1872, when he left the *Standard*, and in March 1873 started the *Hour*, a Conservative newspaper, which proved an utter failure. In this last venture he spent his fortune,

and became bankrupt on the 19th December 1873. This event preyed on his mind, and entirely broke down his health. He died at his residence in South Hackney, London, on the 1st of January 1874, aged 54 years. He was the author of numerous works, the principal of which were *The Commercial Crisis of* 1847-8 ; *History of the Commencement of the Crisis,* 1857-8 ; *City Men and City Manners ; Facts, Failures, and Frauds.* He was also intimately connected with, and a frequent contributor to *The Banker's Magazine, The Bullionist, The Stock Exchange Gazette,* and other commercial Papers.

Griffith ap Gwenwynwyn, a prince of Powys, who, in 1241 (a year after the death of Prince Llewelyn ab Iorwerth), obtained possession of Powysland, of which his father, Gwenwynwyn, had been dispossessed about the year 1217. He for many years remained loyal to the English king. In 1244 he, with two other Welsh chieftains, refused to join David ap Llewelyn, then in arms against the king, and, in 1247, he led an army from South Wales, crossed the Dovey and overran a great part of North Wales, at that time ruled by Prince David. Llewelyn ap Gruffydd, however, in 1256, attacked him, and "wan all Powys from him, saue the castell of Pole [Powis Castle], and a little of Caereneon, and the land of Seauerne side", and in 1259 drove him from his territory. At length, in 1263, Griffith entered into an alliance, offensive and defensive, with Llewelyn, and received back from him his territory, to be held of him as Prince of Wales. The same year he took and demolished the castle of Mold. In 1274 a rupture took place between Llewelyn and Griffith, who thenceforth returned to his allegiance to the English king, and for a time left his own land and went to England, leaving his son Owain with Llewelyn. About 1279, Griffith granted a charter "to his beloved and faithful burgesses of Pole" [Welshpool], erecting their town into a free borough, and bestowing upon them many privileges, which they continued to enjoy for five and a half

centuries. Griffith died in 1286. By his wife, Hawise, the daughter of John le Strange of Ness and Cheswardine, he had six sons and a daughter. Hawise survived her husband many years.

Griffith, John *(Gohebydd)*, although born out of Montgomeryshire, yet, by reason of family ties and residence (for a time), claims notice among its worthies. He was born at a farmhouse called Bodgwilym, near Barmouth, on the 21st of December 1821, and was the son of Mr. Griffith Griffith, by Maria his wife, a daughter of the Rev. John Roberts of Llanbrynmair, an eminent Independent minister. He served an apprenticeship to the grocery trade at Barmouth, and then removed to Liverpool, and subsequently to Llangynog, in this county, to take charge of a shop belonging to Mr. C. Jones, Llanfyllin. About 1846, however, he found more congenial employment in assisting the late Sir (then Mr.) Hugh Owen, in establishing British Schools in Wales. This engagement called for his taking up his residence in London, where he continued mostly to live the remainder of his days. He was one of the leading laymen connected with the Welsh Independents in London, and ever took a prominent and active part in every movement—religious, political, or national—among his compatriots in the great city. His letters to the *Cronicl* (a little magazine then ably conducted by his uncle, the Rev. Samuel Roberts) under the feigned name "Wmffra Edward", attracted much attention and popularity. Mr. Gee of Denbigh, in 1857, started *Baner Cymru*—a new weekly paper—and shortly afterwards engaged the services of Mr. Griffith as its London correspondent. His racy letters from week to week, referring to the principal events of the day, with such notes and comments as suggested themselves to his fertile brain, were read with the greatest avidity, and secured a very large circulation for the paper in which they appeared. Mr. Griffith had for some years given up his work in connection with British Schools, and was now in business on his own

account. He was not, however, well fitted for commercial pursuits, nor was he successful in that line; so, about the year 1860, he gave up business altogether, in order to devote the whole of his time to literary pursuits. He was one of the most regular frequenters of the gallery of the House of Commons during the Session. The writer well remembers meeting him in one of the corridors of the House in April 1865, and being the first to communicate to him the news of President Lincoln's assassination, which had just arrived in the House—news which he, in common with all, received with the greatest horror and consternation. Among his countrymen he came to be universally known as "Gohebydd" *(correspondent)*, he being the first real Welsh specimen of the genus "Own Correspondent." The Rev. Kilsby Jones, indeed, jocularly preferred to call him "Pobman" *(everywhere)*, on account of his turning up at every Eisteddfod, and every meeting of importance, religious or political, of Welshmen; in fact, as Caledfryn facetiously said, Gohebydd was sure to be present on every "pig-killing" occasion. He must have attended, indeed, an immense number of public gatherings of all kinds in the course of every year. His constitution was naturally frail, his voice was weak and shrill, his breathing short and asthmatic, and he had a troublesome cough—disadvantages which effectually precluded him from becoming an orator,—yet he was always listened to with attention, and his shrewd remarks often produced a great effect. His literary style was not by any means faultless, but it had the merit of being direct, striking, and picturesque; and his letters abounded in shrewd common sense. He was an ardent patriot, who fearlessly exposed wrongs and abuses wherever he found them; in politics intensely Liberal; in religion a thorough-going Nonconformist; a remarkably keen observer of men and manners; and a sagacious interpreter of current events and the signs of the times. For some years prior to his death, he suffered much from ill-health, yet he travelled incessantly, not only

in England and Wales, but also abroad. He visited America in 1865, after the war, the Paris exhibition and various parts of France in 1867, and the Vienna exhibition, and various European countries in 1873. In 1875 it became necessary for him to spend the winter months at Mentone for the benefit of his health; and during his stay there he also visited Naples, Rome, and other Italian cities, and had personal interviews with the Pope, Garibaldi, and other notabilities. This last visit of his to the Continent served to prolong his life for a while, but it soon became evident to his friends that his days were numbered. A testimonial to him, in recognition of his private worth and valuable public services was, therefore, quietly set on foot, and a very substantial sum was raised, amounting to several hundreds of pounds. This was presented to him at a public meeting in London, attended by many of the leading men of Wales and the Metropolis. The last few months of his life were spent at his brother-in-law's house at Liverpool, where he died on the 13th December 1877; and on the 17th of the same month he was buried at Fron, near Llangollen. He was never married.—*(Gwyddoniadur, etc.)*

Gwynn, Richard, better known as Richard White, the Catholic "Proto-Martyr of Wales", was a member of the old and influential family of Gwynn of Llanidloes, extinct now for more than two hundred years. Nothing is recorded of his parentage or youth, but we are told that "he was twenty years of age before he did frame his mind to like of good letters", after which he went to Oxford, but not remaining there long, proceeded to Cambridge, and entered St. John's, living by the charity of the college. The change of religion brought about by the accession of Queen Elizabeth, however, caused him to leave the University, and to set himself up as a schoolmaster in Denbighshire, first at Overton Madog, then Wrexham, Gresford, and Yswyd (?), and lastly at Overton again. This occupation he pursued for about sixteen years. He led an exemplary life, and became well-known for his scholarship and love of

learning, and his attachment to the Catholic faith. This latter brought him into trouble, and he became the object of much persecution. In July 1580, he was cast into prison, and kept in confinement for four years, during which he was very harshly treated, being frequently tortured with the view of inducing him to forsake his religion. After several trials he was finally brought up at the Wrexham assizes, on Friday the 9th of October 1584, before Sir George Bromley, chief justice, Simon Thelwall, Esquire, deputy justice, and others, upon an indictment for high treason. The Jury, after being locked up in the church all night, returned a verdict of Guilty the following morning, and Mr. Thelwall, who then presided in the absence of Sir George Bromley, passed the following barbarous sentence :— "Richard White shall be brought to prison from whence he came, and thence drawn on a hurdle to the place of execution, where he shall hang half dead, and so be cut down alive, his members cast into the fire, his belly ripped into the breast, his bowels, liver, lungs, heart, etc., thrown likewise into the fire, his head cut off, his body parted into four quarters. Finally, head and quarters to be set up where it shall please the Queen. And this execution to be done on a Thursday ; we will appoint you the day before we go. And so the Lord have mercy on him." Nothing dismayed at this recital of what was to be done to him, the condemned man resolutely answered, "What is all this ? Is it any more than one death ?" Strong efforts were made to induce him to recant and to acknowledge the Queen's supremacy as the head of the Church, in order to save his life, but in vain. He remained stedfast to the last ; and the sentence was carried out, in all its revolting details, the following Thursday, the 15th of October 1584. Mr. White left behind him a widow and three children. The above account is taken from a contemporary MS., discovered some years ago in the Mission House of the Catholic Chapel, Holywell, and printed at full length in Lloyd's *History of Powys Fadog*, vol. iii.

HARRIS, DAVID, an excellent musician, was the son of John and Winifred Harris of Nantllymystyn, in the parish of Llansantffraid Cwmdauddwr, Radnorshire —a lonesome little mountain farm a few yards only beyond the Montgomeryshire boundary—where he was born September 16th, 1748, and where he continued to reside until the year 1824. In the latter year he went to live with his married daughter, Mrs. Davies of Tymawr, Carno, in this county, with whom he spent the remainder of his days. He died January 6th, 1834, in his eighty-sixth year. Among his best known compositions is an elaborate and, at one time, very popular anthem on Psalm xxv. He also sent in for competition at the Welshpool Eisteddfod, 1824, a congregational tune called "Babell". The prize was awarded to Mr. Roger Woodhouse of Bettws, but competent musicians declare that Mr. Harris's composition is the more skilful and artistic of the two. Mr. Harris was also well versed in Cambrian history, and an excellent antiquary. —(*Enwogion Cymru, etc.*)

HERBERT, JOHN MAURICE, Esquire, County Court Judge of the Monmouth circuit, was the son of John Lawrence Herbert, esquire, of New Hall, Kerry, Montgomeryshire, by his marriage with Joyce Susannah, daughter of Charles Thomas Jones, esquire, of Fronfraith, Llandyssil in the same county. He was born on the 15th of July 1808, his father having died shortly before. His mother subsequently married Thomas Maddy, esquire, of Moreton House, near Hereford, and went to reside there. The subject of this notice was educated at the Cathedral School, Hereford, and afterwards entered St. John's College, Cambridge, where he distinguished himself by taking the Wright's Prize, in the years 1828 and 1829 successively, and graduated as eighth Wrangler in 1830. He proceeded M.A. in due course, and subsequently became a Fellow of his college. During his college days, Mr. Herbert was an active member of his college boat club, and it may be noted as an interesting fact, that he was requested to steer the

University boat in the first race rowed between the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge—an office which he prudently declined, because he thought it undesirable to reduce himself to the required weight. He was throughout life fond of sport, especially of fishing. Mr. Herbert chose the law for his profession, and was called to the Bar by the Honourable Society of Lincoln's Inn in Easter Term, 1835, joining the Oxford circuit. His business, however, principally lay in London, where he practised with success for some time as an equity draftsman and conveyancer. Shortly after the passing of the Tithe Commutation Act he was appointed an Assistant Tithe and Copyhold Commissioner, an office which he filled for some years. In 1844, he was appointed a Commissioner for enfranchising the assessionable manors of the Duchy of Cornwall; and to enable him to fulfil his duties as such, he went to reside for two years in that county. In 1847, Mr. Herbert was one of the first Judges appointed for the new County Courts, established, or rather remodelled, under an Act of the previous year; and this office he continued to hold up to his death. The circuit assigned to him comprised the towns and districts of Presteign, Knighton, Leominster, Hereford, Abergavenny, Chepstow, Monmouth, Newport, Pontypool, Ross, Tredegar, and Usk. The absence of railway communication between most of these towns in those days necessitated his driving from town to town in his own carriage—a four-wheeled dog-cart, drawn by a pair of horses called by him "Justice" and "Cottenham". In 1858, his circuit was considerably altered, the towns of Presteign, Knighton, Leominster, and Hereford being taken away, while Crickhowell, and the important town and district of Cardiff, were added to it. Mr. Herbert brought to the discharge of his duties an enthusiastic disposition, great industry, and a wide and extensive knowledge of law—qualities which combined to make him a most able Judge. He was, moreover, a good speaker, and expressed himself with great clearness and force. His decisions were rarely

appealed against, and more rarely reversed; and as shewing the estimation in which his judgment was held, trial by jury had become almost obsolete in his Courts. In an Appeal against one of his decisions, the Lord Chief Justice of the Common Pleas remarked that the judgment of Mr. Herbert was a masterly exposition of the law, and that it would be an honour to his Court to have it entered upon their records. His familiarity with accounts was extraordinary, and the unravelling of mathematical problems and arithmetical puzzles was a great delight to him. He had, moreover, a keen sense of humour, and many anecdotes are related of his pleasantries and witticisms. Mr. Herbert was also a magistrate for the counties of Hereford and Monmouth, and I believe also of Radnor and Glamorgan. In the first named county he for many years acted as Deputy-Chairman of Quarter Sessions. Himself an erudite scholar, he took great interest in educational and other movements for promoting the welfare of what may be called the lower middle and the poorer classes. He was a Fellow of the Geological Society, and had some knowledge of music, being himself a fairly good performer on the flute. His knowledge of agriculture and agricultural customs was very extensive; for many years he himself farmed somewhat extensively; and for the last thirty-one years of his life he was a Fellow of the Royal Agricultural Society. He was eminently social in his habits, and, while himself throughout life an exceedingly moderate and abstemious man, he was always one of the leading spirits at any festive gathering he attended, ever full of fun and joke. Mr. Herbert was twice married; first, in 1840, to Mary Anne, eldest daughter of Thomas Johnes, Esquire, of Garthmyl Isaf, Montgomeryshire, who died in 1876; and secondly, in 1877, to Mary Charlotte, fourth daughter of the Rev. Thomas Philpotts, of Porthgwidden, Cornwall, who survived him. His last illness was very brief. He presided in the Cardiff Court, with his usual ability, and with un-

diminished mental faculties, on Saturday, the 28th October 1882, but he died on the following Friday, the 3rd of November, at his residence, Rocklands, near Ross (where he had lived the greater part of his judicial life), and, on the 7th of the same month, was buried in the churchyard of Goodrich, Monmouthshire. —*(Red Dragon; Law Times, etc.)*

Jones Thomas, the first missionary to the Khassee Hills, North Eastern Bengal, was the second son of Edward and Mary Jones, and was born near Tanyffridd, between Llanfair and Meifod, on the 24th of January 1810, and was baptized at Dolanog Chapel on the 25th of the next month. His father, Edward Jones, was a wheelwright and carpenter by trade, and had altogether ten children. A few years after his marriage he removed to Liverpool, but afterwards returned to Wales in consequence of failing health. Thomas Jones at first learned his father's trade, and worked with him for some time, but subsequently he became a miller, and was employed as such at Llivior Mill, Berriew. Here he was brought under deep religious impressions, and having decided on devoting himself to missionary work, he entered the Calvinistic Methodist College at Bala, to be trained as such. He was ordained at Bala on the 1st January 1840. He offered himself to the London Missionary Society for missionary work in India, but that Society, acting upon the report of Dr. Conquest, its medical adviser, at first declined the offer altogether, but subsequently accepted Mr. Jones on condition that he would consent to labour in South Africa. This he declined; and the result was that the Calvinistic Methodists at once withdrew their support from the London Missionary Society, established a Missionary Society of their own, and sent Mr. Jones, as their first missionary, to the Khassee Hills. He and his wife, whom he had lately married, sailed from Liverpool on the 25th November 1840, arriving at Calcutta (where he stayed a few weeks), on the 23rd April 1841, and at Cherrapoonjee on the Hills on the 22nd of June fol-

lowing. His first task was to learn the native language —and it turned out to be one of no small difficulty. Mr. Jones, however, with great patience and perseverance succeeded in mastering it, and after a while translated the Gospel of St. Matthew and some other works into it. He laboured zealously and earnestly in the mission-field for some years, but, in consequence of some misunderstanding between himself and the committee in Liverpool, his connection with the Society was terminated, and he retired from the work. Probably he erred in judgment, but by those who knew him best his piety and integrity were not doubted. His health failed him. On the 4th of September 1849 he arrived at Calcutta in a very bad state of health, and was received into the house of the Rev. Mr. Ewart, who treated him with great kindness. He died on the 16th of the same month, in his fortieth year, and was buried the following day in the Scotch burial ground at Calcutta. His daughter, Mrs. Brownlow, still lives in the neighbourhood of the Khassee Hills, and takes much interest in educational and missionary work.—*(Ex inf.*, Mrs. A. Jones ; *Drysorfa, etc.)*

Roberts, Rev. John, of Llanbrynmair, an Independent Minister, whose name is still greatly revered, was the son of Evan Roberts, of Bronllan, Mochdre, where he was born on the 25th of February 1767. He was one of twelve children. His parents were religious people who carefully brought up their children. They were both members of the Independent Church at Llanbrynmair, but chiefly in connection with the branch of it meeting at Aberhavesp. His father was a member for upwards of seventy years, that is, from the age of fifteen to that of eighty-six, when he died. John Roberts, when he was seventeen years old, went to live with some relatives at Allt-y-ffynnon, Aberhavesp, where he remained two years, and then removed to Llanbrynmair, where he spent the rest of his life except the period of his stay at the Academy. On the 29th of October 1786, he joined the Independent

Church at Llanbrynmair, and in January 1790 was induced to begin preaching—his first attempt being made at Tybrith, Manafon. The following March he entered upon a course of study at the Academy at Oswestry, then presided over by the celebrated Dr. Edward Williams, afterwards of Rotherham. He followed his studies afterwards at various other places, and in January 1795, he accepted the invitation of the Church at Llanbrynmair to become co-pastor with their venerable minister, the Rev. Richard Tibbot. He was ordained in August 1796, and upon Mr. Tibbot's death in March 1798 he became the sole minister, which office he filled with remarkable zeal and ability until his death—a period of more than thirty-six years. He was married January 17th, 1797, and became the father of five children, three of whom still survive, two (S. R. and J. R. of Conway), being eminent ministers with the Independents, and the authors of numerous works; the other is well known among his countrymen from his writings under the *nom de plume* "Gruffydd Rhisiart." In addition to his ministerial labours, Mr. Roberts kept a day-school; and through his exertions six school-houses, where occasional services and Sunday Schools were held, were built within a radius of four or five miles of the old chapel. He wrote several able pamphlets upon controversial theological subjects, both in English and Welsh, and though he was often bitterly assailed, his moderation, gentleness, meekness, and fervent piety, gained for him the deep and lasting regard of friends and foes alike. He was also a frequent contributor to the *Evangelical Magazine* and other periodicals, English and Welsh. He died on the 21st of July 1834, aged 67 years, and was buried at the parish church of Llanbrynmair. His engraved portrait is in the Powysland Museum. The following were the principal pamphlets or tracts written by him:—1. *A Friendly Call to the Arminians to consider who hath made the difference between them and others.* (Welsh, 1807.) 2. *Directions*

and Counsels to Believers to make their Calling and Election sure. (Welsh, 1809.) 3. *A Friendly Address to the Arminians.* (1809.) 4. *A Second Address to the Arminians*—in answer to Mr. Brocas's (of Shrewsbury) reply to the First Address. 5. *The Life of the Rev. Lewis Rees.* (Welsh, 1814.) 6. *A Humble Attempt to Explain the Truth taught us in the Scripture, concerning the general and particular Objects of the Death of Jesus Christ.* (Welsh, 1814.) 7. *A Serious Call to Seekers after the Truth, to consider the Testimony of the Scriptures concerning the extent of Christ's Atonement.* (Welsh, 1820.) 8. *The Bee: a Collection of Short Anecdotes.* (Welsh, 1816.) 9. *A Short Defence of the Right of Children in General to the Ordinance of Baptism.* (Welsh.)—*(Cofiant y Parch. John Roberts; Gwyddoniadur; Lleyn MSS., etc.)*

Rowland, John, of Machynlleth, a poet of the early part of last century, some of whose compositions are printed in the *Blodeugerdd.* He was a son of Rowland Jones, and a grandson of John David Jones of the same place.—*(Byegones,* August 3rd, 1881, and June 7th 1882.)

Selyf, the son of Cynan Garwyn, and grandson of Brochwel Ysgythrog, Prince of Powys, one of the "three grave slaughterers" of the Isle of Britain. "Tri arfeddawg ynys Prydain; Selyf mab Cynan Garwyn, ac Afaon mab Taliessin, a Gwallawc mab Llëenawc. Sef achaws y gelwit hwynt yn arfedogion wrth ddial eu cam oc oe bedd." (The three grave slaughterers of the isle of Britain, Selyf, the son of Cynan Garwyn, Afaon the son of Taliesin, and Gwallawg the son of Lleenawg. The reason why they were called grave slaughterers was because they avenged themselves on their foes from their graves.)—*(Myv. Arch.*, p. 392.)

Sion Wyn ab Griffri, or Gruffydd, "of Montgomeryshire, gent., wrote the *History of all Wales;* and his books are, as far as they go, good authorities to all Wales; I [Rhys Cain] have some of them that may be seen." He flourished about the beginning of the 16th century.—(Jones's *Relics of the Welsh Bards.*)

SUDELEY, CHARLES HANBURY TRACY, 1ST BARON, was the third son of John Hanbury, Esq., of Pontypool Park, M.P. for the county of Monmouth (a member of a very ancient Worcestershire family), by Jane, daughter of Morgan Lewis, Esq., of St. Pierre, in that county. He was born at Pontypool in 1777, and was educated at Rugby. On the 15th December 1798, he assumed by licence the name and arms of Tracy, being the maiden name of his grandmother, Jane, daughter of the fifth Viscount Tracy, as well as that of his future wife. On the 29th of the same month he married his cousin Henrietta Susan, only surviving child and heiress of Henry, eighth Viscount Tracy, to whom also Arthur Blayney, Esq., of Gregynog, devised his extensive estates. On coming into these estates in right of his wife, Mr. Tracy took an active part in Montgomeryshire affairs; more especially in the promotion of the Montgomeryshire Canal, the improvement of turnpike roads, and the political agitation attending the passing of the Reform Act and the enfranchisement of the Montgomery Boroughs. He represented Tewkesbury in Parliament from 1831 to 1837, and was a firm and consistent supporter of Lords Grey and Melbourne; by the latter of whom he was raised to the peerage on the 12th July 1838, by the title of Baron Sudeley of Toddington in the county of Gloucester. On the death of the Earl of Powis, K.G., on the 17th of January 1848, Lord Sudeley was appointed Lord Lieutenant of Montgomeryshire. Lady Sudeley died 5th June 1839. Lord Sudeley died 10th Feb. 1858, aged 81 years. There was issue of their marrriage six sons, namely, Thomas Charles (2nd baron), Henry, John Capel, Capel Arthur, William, and Edward; and three daughters, Henrietta, Frances, and Laura Susanna. The Tracys were Lords of Sudeley and Toddington, in Gloucestershire, certainly before the middle of the 12th century, and probably much earlier than that date. Arms—Quarterly, 1st and 4th *or*, an escallop in the chief point *sable*, between two bendlets *gules*, for TRACY; 2nd and

3rd *or*, a bend engrailed, vert, plain cotised *sable* for HANBURY. Crests—On a chapeau turned up *ermine*, an escallop *sable*, between two wings *or*, for TRACY. Out of a mural crown *sable*, a demi lion rampant *or*, holding in the paws a battle-axe *sable*, helved *gold*, for HANBURY. Supporters—On either side a falcon, wings elevated proper beaked and belled *or*. Motto—"Memoria pii æterna."

SUDELEY, THOMAS CHARLES HANBURY TRACY, 2ND BARON, was born in the parish of Marylebone on the 5th February 1801, and married, 25th August 1831, Emma Elizabeth Alicia, second daughter of the late George Hay Dawkins Pennant, Esq., of Penrhyn Castle, Carnarvonshire, by Sophia Mary, his wife. He assumed the surname of Leigh by sign manual in 1806, but resumed his patronymic by another licence, dated in 1839. On the death of his father on the 10th February 1858, he succeeded to the title and estates, and was also appointed Lord Lieutenant of Montgomeryshire. He had issue six sons, namely, Sudeley Charles George (3rd baron), Charles Douglas Richard, Algernon Cornwallis Henry, Alfred Francis Algernon, Frederick Stephen Archibald, and Hubert George Edward; and six daughters, Juliana Sophia Elizabeth, Georgiana Henrietta Emma, Adelaide Frances Isabella, Alice Augusta Gertrude, Gertrude Emily Rosamond, and Madeleine Emily Augusta. He died at Pau the 19th February 1863, aged 62 years.

SUDELEY, CHARLES GEORGE HANBURY TRACY, 3RD BARON, was born 9th April 1837. On the death of Colonel Wynn, M.P. for Montgomeryshire in June 1862, he contested the county seat, in the Liberal interest, with Mr. Charles Watkin Williams Wynn, Conservative, but was defeated by the latter by a majority of 307. On the death of his father in February 1863, he succeeded to the title and estates, and also became Lord Lieutenant of Montgomeryshire. He died unmarried on the 28th April 1877, at Toddington, aged 40 years, and was succeeded by his

brother, Charles Douglas Richard, M.P. for the Montgomery Boroughs since 1863, the present peer.

Swrdwal, Hywel.—(See *ante*, vol. xi, p. 242.)

Swrdwal, Ieuan ab Hywel.—(See *ibid.*, p. 248.)

Sypyn Cyfeiliog, whose real name was Dafydd Bach ab Madog Wladaidd, was a poet contemporary with Owain Glyndwr, towards the close of the 14th century. He wrote many pieces of aphoristical poetry, some of which are preserved in manuscript, amongst others, a poem in triplets, descriptive of every part of Wales, the character of the inhabitants, etc. The bards of that age gave out their pieces under fictitious names, for reasons that are sufficiently obvious; hence, this poet was also known as Dafydd Maelienydd, Ieutyn Cyfeiliog, Bach Buddygre, and Cnepyn Gwrthrynion.—(Williams' *Eminent Welshmen; Camb. Journal*, 1858, p. 168.)

Tibbott, Rev. Richard, an eminent Independent minister, was born at Hafod-y-bant, a little cottage on a hill-side at Llanbrynmair, now in ruins, on the 18th January 1719. His parents were pious persons, but very poor, and had a family of six children, of whom the subject of this notice was the youngest. He was brought up very religiously, and was taught to repeat the whole of the Westminster Catechism before he was seven years old. Before he was fifteen he was admitted into full church membership, and before he was twenty he began to preach. His religious impressions were deep and strong, and his thirst for knowledge was intense, though his opportunities for gratifying it were extremely few. By dint of great perseverance and application, however, he managed to acquire a good deal of general knowledge; and to further fit himself for the work of the ministry, he, about the year 1741, placed himself for some time under the tuition of the Rev. Griffith Jones of Llanddowror in South Wales,[1] an evangelical clergyman of the Church of England,

[1] Mr. Tibbott at this time kept a MS. Diary, which some years ago accidentally came into my possession.

whom Mr. Tibbott ever afterwards considered the most godly man he had ever known. For a year or two after this he kept a day-school in the neighbourhood of Llanddowror. He had joined, and become well acquainted, and associated with Whitfield, Harries, Rowlands and others of the early Calvinistic Methodist reformers, and for the first twenty-five years of his ministry he laboured chiefly with that denomination. At the first Calvinistic Methodist Association in Wales, held at Watford, Glamorganshire, on the 5th and 6th January 1743, he was appointed superintendent of all its "societies", or churches, in the counties of Montgomery, Merioneth, Carnarvon and Denbigh. Whitfield himself presided on the occasion, and strongly urged him to "consider the unanimous call of his brethren as the call of the Lord." It was his custom to visit each of these societies once in three months, and every question of importance was submitted to his decision. This laborious charge he held for upwards of fifteen years, often meeting with persecution and ill-treatment, and sometimes imprisonment. He subsequently accepted the call of the Independent Church at Llanbrynmair to become its pastor in succession to the Rev. Lewis Rees (father of the celebrated Dr. Abraham Rees), and in November 1762 he was ordained as such, and for the remainder of his life—a period of thirty-five years and upwards—he laboured with great zeal and success in that capacity, his pastoral care also extending over nearly half of Montgomeryshire. In that time he received into church membership 496 persons. On one occasion, 18th February 1787, twenty-two persons were so received at the same time, among them being Mary Roberts, the writer's grandmother, who remained in church membership to the day of her death—a period of seventy-four years! It was Mr. Tibbott's custom to travel once a year throughout the Principality, preaching wherever he went, and in any chapel, whether it belonged to Methodists, Independents, or Baptists.

In his younger days he invariably walked—often doing on foot a distance of from thirty to forty miles a day—preaching also three times. Several times he walked from Tanybwlch, Merionethshire, to Llanbrynmair, a distance of about forty miles, without staying to take refreshment until he reached home. On another occasion he walked all the way to Edinburgh to see and hear Erskine, the Scottish preacher, returning also on foot, having walked nearly sixty miles a day! He was a man in whom a fiery zeal for the essentials of religion was combined with a moderation and tolerance of the views of others, and an absence of party zeal, in a remarkable degree. He could not be considered a great orator, but his earnestness, zeal, and the saintliness of his own character had greater weight than any amount of mere eloquence. His influence was very considerable, and may be distinctly traced, even at this day, in the various localities where he more particularly laboured. He was thrice married, and was the father of fifteen children. He died on Sunday, March 18th, 1798, in the eightieth year of his age, and was buried the following Thursday at the parish church of Llanbrynmair.—(*Evan. Mag.*, 1802; *Cronicl*, November 1848.)

Trinio, the founder of Llandrinio Church, was a saint who flourished in the early part of the sixth century. He was the son of Divwng ab Emyr Llydaw, and accompanied St. Cadvan (his cousin) to Bardsey.—(Rees's *Welsh Saints*, etc.)

Tydecho, another saint of the same period, was the son of Amwn Ddu ab Emyr Llydaw. He settled in the district of Mawddwy, and founded the churches of Llanymawddwy, Mallwyd, Garthbeibio, and Cemmaes. He was noted for the sanctity of his life, and a great number of miracles were attributed to him, many of which are recorded in *Cywydd Tydecho* by that eminent poet of the fifteenth century, Dafydd Llwyd ab Llewelyn ab Gruffydd of Mathafarn, and which is printed in the *Camb. Register*, vol. ii, p. 375; also in Jones's *Bardic Museum*, with notes, by Lewis Morris.—(*Ibid.*)

Tysilio, an eminent saint, poet, and chronicler, who flourished about the middle of the seventh century, was the son of Brochwel Ysgythrog, Prince of Powys, by Arddun, daughter of Pabo Post Prydain. He was a first cousin of St. Asaph, whom he is said to have succeeded as bishop of the see named after him. *Brut Tysilio*, one of the ancient Welsh chronicles printed in the *Myvyrian Archaiology*, is attributed to him, though how much of it was really written by him it is now impossible to say. He was also a poet of a high order, but the only remnant of his poetry is a "Dialogue between Llewelyn and Gwrnerth" of Welshpool, printed in the *Myvyrian Archaiology*. He was a firm supporter of the independence of the British Church against the arrogant pretensions of the Roman Pontiff, put forth by his emissary, Augustine the Monk. He founded, and is the patron saint of, the following churches: Meifod and Llandysilio in Montgomeryshire; Llandysilio and Bryneglwys in Denbighshire; Llandysilio in Anglesey; Llandysilio in Carmarthenshire; Llandysilio-gogo in Cardiganshire; Sellack and Llansilio in Herefordshire. —(Rees's *Welsh Saints, Iolo MSS., Myv. Arch.*, etc.)

ARTICLES FOR REGULATING SHERIFFS' EXPENSES.

We have been favoured by Mr. A. C. Humphreys Owen, of Glansevern, with the following curious document:—

Articles for Regulating and Reducing the Expences attending the Office of Sheriffs of the Counties of *Flint, Denbigh,* and *Montgomery.* Agreed to the 17th Day of *March,* 1747.

I. That the Sheriffs of the said several Counties shall not for the future keep any House or Table, during the Assizes, or be at any Expence in entertaining or treating the Gentlemen of the Grand Jury, the Counsel, or any other Gentlemen at the Assizes. Nor shall the Sheriff of any of the above Counties make any Present to the Judges, or give any Gratuities to their Officers or Servants, during the Time of Shrievalty, the same being against the Statute of the 13th and 14th of *Car.* II. And whereas it has been unusual, 'till of late Years, for the Sheriffs to provide any Coach to attend the Judges at an Assizes, and the same is oftentimes of great Inconveniency to Sheriffs, especially to such Gentlemen who have none of their own: It is therefore hereby agreed, that for the future, no Sheriff shall bring his own, or find any Coach, to attend the Assizes, for any of the Counties above-mentioned.

II. That the Sheriffs shall hereafter be at no other Expence for the Cloathing, Entertainment, Maintenance, or Wages of the Javelin-Men or Trumpeters, save as herein is after mentioned.

III. That the Javelin-Men shall each of them be furnished with a Surtout Coat, decently trimmed, a Hat and Javelin; and Trumpet-Banners shall be provided, upon one Side of which shall be painted the Arms of the Principality, and on the other Side such Device as shall be thought convenient.

IV. That the Coats, Hats, Javelins, and Banners, shall be from Time to Time renewed, as there shall be Occasion, out of the Interest Money arising from the Fund herein-after mentioned, and shall be lodged in the Hands of an Agent, to be

appointed as herein after-mentioned, who shall take Care of the same from one Circuit to another.

V. That the Agent shall find Twelve Persons to be Javelin-Men, who shall all provide their own Horses, and be handsomely mounted, to meet and attend the Judges and Sheriffs as usual, in the several Counties aforesaid. And they shall have such Allowances for the same as the Agent shall, with the Consent of the Committee for the Time being, contract or agree for, at each Assizes; and these allowances shall be paid at each Assizes by the Sheriffs for the Time being, into the Hands of the Agent, who shall pay over the same to the Javelin-Men; which Expence is to be eased, when the Fund will allow of it, without impairing the Capital.——That two Trumpeters shall be appointed by the Committee herein after-mentioned, and shall receive for their Trouble in each County Five Pounds Six Shillings and Eight pence, to be divided between them, which Sum shall be paid out of the yearly Produce of the said Fund.

VI. That the Agent shall from Time to Time be appointed by a Majority of the Committee, and be removeable at their Pleasure; and shall receive for his Trouble the annual Sum of Six Guineas, to be paid out of the Produce of the Fund;—to which Office for the present, *Daniel Payne* of *Wrexham*, is hereby appointed.

VII. That in order to raise a Fund for the several Purposes intended by these Articles, it is agreed, That every Person, who is not already a Subscriber, and who shall become a Subscriber hereto before the Second Day of *August* next, shall, at the Time of Subscribing, pay down the Sum of Five Guineas into the Hands of Ellis Yonge, Esq.; (who is appointed Treasurer) or into the Hands of one of the Gentlemen of the Committee hereby appointed, who shall pay over the same to the Treasurer; which Subscription shall be added to those already paid in, and shall altogether be called the Sheriffs Stock; and that no Person hereafter shall be admitted a Subscriber, but by and with the Consent of at least Nine of the Committee for the Time being, nor shall be entitled to the Benefit of this Subscription, but upon such Terms, and under such Circumstances as are herein expressed.

VIII. That Infants, and such as are now in any respect unqualified to serve the Office of Sheriff of any of the said Counties, shall, with the Consent of the Committee, be admitted Subscribers thereto, on Payment of Five Guineas in the Hands of the Treasurer for the Time being, within Six

Calendar Months after they shall have arrived of full Age, or shall become qualified to serve the said Office, so as the same be not done during any Vacancy in the said Office, and provided such Subscription and Payment be made between the Twelfth Day of *February* and last Day of *October*, and at no other Time of the Year.

IX. That any Person who omits to become a Subscriber hereto before the Second Day of *August* next, or within Six Months after he becomes of Age, or is qualified to serve the said Office of Sheriff, shall, with the Approbation of the Committee, be any Time afterwards betwixt the Twelfth Day of *February* and last Day of *October*, in any Year, (except when the Office of Sheriff is vacant by Death) be admitted a Subscriber hereunto, on Payment of Twenty Guineas into the Hands of the Treasurer for the Time being, to be added to the Sheriffs Stock, and not otherwise.

X. That no Person whatsoever shall, after the Second Day of *August* next, be admitted a Subscriber hereunto, after he shall be Pricked or Named Sheriff of any of the said Counties, until his Shrievalty shall be determined, unless he pays down Forty Pounds into the Hands of the Treasurer for the Time being, to encrease the Sheriffs Stock. And to avoid Inconveniences that may arise on this Head by private Intelligence, or a previous Knowledge who shall be appointed Sheriffs; it is expressly agreed, That no Person shall, at any Time after the Second Day of *August* next, be admitted a Subscriber hereunto, between the last Day of *October* and Twelfth Day of *February* in any Year (in which Time Sheriffs are usually appointed) unless he pays down Forty Pounds into the Hands of the Treasurer for the Time being, to increase the Sheriffs Stock. And whenever a Sheriff dies in his Office, or the Office becomes otherwise vacant, no Person whatsoever shall be admitted a Subscriber between the Time of his Death and the Appointment of his Successor, unless such Person pays down Forty Pounds into the Hands of the Treasurer, to increase the Sheriffs Stock. And it is hereby expressly agreed, that this Tenth Article shall, in every Part thereof, be inviolably observed, as long as this Subscription subsists; and shall not, on any Solicitation, Account, or Consideration whatsoever, be violated, infringed, varied or altered, in any wise: and the Subscribers hereto expressly promise, declare, and agree, that they will not on any Account whatsoever, agree, sollicit or apply to have the same altered, varied, or in any wise departed from.

XI. That the said Coats, Hats, Javelins and Banners, or

any of them, shall not be used by or for any Sheriff who shall not be a Subscriber hereto.

XII. That no Subscriber hereto shall at any Time hereafter, make, fit, or furnish out any Javelin or Livery-Man for any Sheriff that shall not be a Subscriber, or be at any Expence whatever on that Account.

XIII. That Two Books shall be provided, in each of which shall be fairly entered these Articles, and the Names of the several Subscribers, with the Amount of the several Subscriptions, and the Securities taken from the same, together with the Application of the Interest or Produce thereof, and wherein all Accounts relating to this subscription, shall, from Time to Time be carefully entered and kept; one of which Books shall be deposited with the Treasurer, and the other with the Agent for the Time being; and every Subscriber shall at all Times be at Liberty to inspect the said Books, and take such Copies or Extracts therefrom, as he shall think convenient.

XIV. That the Treasurer shall be removeable by the Committee, who shall be impower'd from Time to Time to nominate a new one as often as they shall see convenient. And that all the Money raised by this Subscription, shall be paid to the Treasurer, who shall take Care to dispose thereof, and lay out the same at Interest, in the manner herein after directed, and shall keep a regular Account of all Money paid in, and how the same has been laid out and applied, and of all Receipts and Disbursements relating to this Subscription, wherein he is to be assisted by the Agent; and shall have the Custody of all Securities for Money, Papers, and Accounts relating thereto.

XV. That whenever a Treasurer dies, or is removed or changed, he or his Executors or Administrators, as the Case happens, shall, on request, pay and deliver over to the new Treasurer, or to such Person or Persons as shall be appointed by a Majority of the Committee for the Time being, all such Money, and Securities for Money, Books, Papers, and Accounts, as shall be in his Custody or Power, relating to this Subscription.

XVI. That a Majority of the Committee for the Time being, may direct all or any Part of the Stock to be put out to Interest, the Security or Securities to be taken in the Names of three Subscribers, (to wit.) Sir *Robert Grosvenor*, Sir *John Glynne* and *Edward Kynaston*, Esq.; and lodged with the Treasurer for the Time being; and in case of the Death of any of the said Trustees, the Committee are to name such

others of the Subscribers as they shall think fit, in the room of the Person so dying.

XVII. That five Subscribers of each County are hereby impowered to be of a Committee to admit of Subscribers, and to assist, advise, and give Directions to the Treasurer and Agent for the Time being; and to do such other Acts as are hereby referred to the Committee, which Committee shall, from Time to Time, be appointed by a Majority of the Subscribers, at any General Meeting, and shall all or any of them be removeable at Pleasure, at such General Meeting; of which Meeting Publick Notice shall be previously given in the *Chester Courant*; and that the Committee for the said several Counties shall be as follows:

FLINTSHIRE COMMITTEE.—Sir John Glynne, Bart.; Thomas Hughes, of Halkin, Esq.; George Hope, of Hope, Esq.; Lloyd Kenyon, of Gredington, Esq.; William Dymock, of Wrexham, Esq.; Thomas Slaughter, of Broughton, Esq.; Peter Davies, of Grove, Esq.; Phillip Lloyd Fletcher, of Gwernhayled, Esq.

DENBIGHSHIRE COMMITTEE.—Ellis Yonge, of Acton, Esq.; Robert Pryce, of Bathavern, Esq.; Peirce Wynne, of Dyfrinalet, Esq.; Robert Wynne, of Plasnewydd, Esq.; John Mostyn, of Segroit, Esq.; Kenrick Eyton, of Eyton, Esq.; Owen Wynne, of Llwyn, Esq.; Richard Parry Price, of Bryn y piece, Esq.

MONTGOMERYSHIRE COMMITTEE.—William Mostyn, of Bryngwyn, Esq.; George Devereux, of Kefngwernfa, Esq.; Pryce Jones, of Glanhafren, Esq.; Edward Kynaston, of Trewarn, Esq.; Thomas Eyton, of Lleeswood, Esq.; Bagot Read, of Flint, Esq.; John Wynne, of Penrhose, Esq.; Devereux Mytton, of Pool, Esq.

XVIII. And it is hereby declared, that no Committee shall be held, unless Five or more of the Persons appointed to be of the Committee, shall meet at a Time and Place for that Purpose, to be appointed by a public Notice to be inserted in the said *Courant*. And it is also declared, that if any Five or more of the Persons appointed for the said Committee, shall attend at any such Meeting, any Act done by them, or the Majority of them who shall be then present, shall be esteemed the Act of the whole Committee, and be as effectual as if all the Members of the said Committee were then present; except only in the Case of admitting any new Subscriber, which is not to be done without the Consent of Nine at least of the said Committee.

XIX. And Lastly, It is declared and agreed, That it shall and may be lawful to, and for the Committee by Writing

under their Hands, from Time to Time, to make any Additions to, or Alterations in these Articles, or any of them, or to make any new Orders or Regulations, touching the Matters aforesaid. And all Additions or Alterations, new Orders or Regulations to be made from Time to Time as aforesaid, shall be entered in the said Books to be kept as aforesaid, and shall be submitted to and observed as fully, to all Intents and Purposes, as if the same had been originally inserted therein: Provided always, and it is hereby declared, that neither a Majority of the Subscribers, nor any Committee appointed by them, shall have power to repeal, alter, or vary, the Tenth Article herein contained, or any Part thereof.

July 6, 1749.—By a Committee of the Gentlemen then present, at the *Eagles*, in *Wrexham*, It was agreed, that in the 18th Article these Words, *viz.* (shall be done in the Presence of Five of the said Committee, and the Approbation of four others signified under their Hands) shall be inserted instead of these Words, *is not to be done without the Consent of Nine of the Committee.*

We have not been able to learn how long the *Articles* continued in operation. The meeting of the Committee in 1794 being held at the *Eagles* in Wrexham, indicates that Wrexham was its head-quarters, although the Flintshire portion of the Committee takes precedence.

The practice, that "had been unusual till of late years", of providing a coach to attend the Judges, added to the expensive custom of "keeping a table" (or "open house") during the Assizes, and the still more objectionable habit of presenting gratuities to the Judges and their servants, must have involved the Sheriffs in a large expenditure, from the burden of which it was the object of these *Articles* to relieve future Sheriffs.

It is not improbable that the printing of this document may elicit further information on the subject.

NARRATIVE, TRAVELS, ETC., OF CAPTAIN WILLIAM OWEN, R.N.[1]

WE have been favoured by Mrs. Robinson Owen, widow of the late Commander John Robinson, R.N., and daughter of the late Admiral William Fitz-William Owen, R.N., the younger son of Captain William Owen, with an opportunity of perusing the journal of her grandfather (Captain William Owen), extending from 1750 to 1771, giving an account of this eminent naval officer's career from his first entrance into the Navy; and we are permitted to make extracts from it of such personal and local matters as may be thought suitable for the pages of the *Transactions of the Powys-land Club* as a local Archæological Society.

It is a matter of regret that we cannot appropriately give all the interesting narrative of his travels and adventures in various parts of the world, and of the many engagements of which he was an eye-witness, his graphic account of which well deserves being printed in some suitable publication. His narrative of the Battle of Plassey, however, in which the author took a part, may possibly be considered worthy of being made an exception of.

The journal is contained in two large folio volumes, neatly written, and with few alterations or corrections, and containing 591 and 276 pp. respectively. The first volume has no heading. The second volume is entitled, "*Narrative, Travels, Voyages, etc.*, vol. ii, by William Owen." The author enters into such minute details that he must have kept a daily diary; but these two volumes contain expressions, such as, "never

[1] See *Mont. Coll.*, vol. iii, p. 255, and vol. xv, p. 205.

was happier in any future part of my life", and "as ever I held in the subsequent part of my life", which show these volumes were not the original diary itself. They appear to be an extended copy of the diary, written after a lapse of a number of years, with additions.

1750.—The Right Honourable Wilmot (Vaughan), Lord Viscount Lisburne, having some time before used his interest to get me a midshipman's berth on board a man of war, which was rather difficult on account of the great number of young gentlemen, who had served in the late war, who were unprovided for, and were now crowded in vast numbers upon the hands of the few captains in commission; about the middle of March his lordship sent to me to repair to the Admiralty Office as soon as possible. As no persuasions could induce me to alter the resolution I had formed in early youth, of seeking my fortune at sea, I was fitted out with all possible despatch, and on the 26th was sent to Shrewsbury.

The 29th, in the morning, I went on board the wherry, breakfasted at Atcham, dined at Bridgenorth, drunk tea at Bewdley, and at 9 at night arrived at Worcester. At this time turnpike roads were in their infancy, post-chaises scarce known, no stage coaches set up at any considerable distance from the metropolis, and the only mode of conveyance of travellers between Shrewsbury and London was what they call'd a caravan, very little superior to a waggon, so that the wherry was the most convenient and pleasing vehicle, and continued in repute till post-chaises, stage-coaches, and flying-machines became almost universally established. I do not recollect that I ever met with more agreeable company, or was happier in any future part of my peregrinations, than I was in this little voyage from Shrewsbury to Worcester. The next day I spent in the city of Worcester with my friendly *compagnons de voyage*, and hired a good horse for sixteen shillings of the Oxford carrier to carry me to Oxford.

The 31st, in the morning, I set out, passed through Pershore, where two gentlemen joined company with me, passed through Evesham, Broadway, Moreton-in-the-Marsh, and dined at Chipping Norton; we stopped at Woodstock to view Blenheim House, belonging to the Duke of Marlborough, and in the evening arrived at Oxford.

Sunday, 1st April, I spent in viewing everything curious in the University with my brother Edward, who was then a scholar of Jesus College, and some other friends. Having

taken a place in the London stage-coach, sett off next morning at 3 o'clock. My companions were two Swiss gentlemen, a Hanoverian Jew, and his wife. We breakfasted at Henley-upon-Thames, dined at Slough, drunk tea at Brentford, and at 6 o'clock in the evening arrived in London.

The 3rd was a very rainy day; I stayed within doors with my cousin, John Rogers, who lived in Greek Street, Soho. The 4th, I waited upon Thomas Corbett, Esq., Secretary of the Admiralty, agreeable to the directions of Lord Lisburn, and was very kindly received. He told me that, out of regard to the recommendation of my friend, and his good wishes to me as a Welshman, he had chose to put me with his own son-in-law, Captain Lloyd of the *Sphinx*, of twenty guns, then at Sheerness, and desired me to call the next day, when Captain Lloyd would be there, that I might be introduced to him: the remainder of the day I spent in viewing London; in the evening I went to Sadler's Wells, and thought the whole was *wondrous* pretty. The 5th, waited on Captain Lloyd, was well received; he gave me a letter to his lieutenant, Charles Davids (a sturdy old Welshman, morose in his nature, but an excellent seaman and officer), desiring me to repair to the ship without loss of time.

The 6th, at 11 o'clock in the forenoon, I embarked in the Gravesend passage-boat at Billingsgate, and turned down the river; the wind, blowing pretty fresh, caused a short popling sea, which occasioned as distressful a scene of sea-sickness among the passengers as I ever beheld in the subsequent part of my life. It may appear strange, but it is no less strange than true, that at this time, and once before, when out at sea in pretty rough weather, at Aberystwith, I never once felt the least symptom of sea-sickness. Indeed, I will confess that I, although I never was sea-sick in my life, I have often since been rather sick of the sea. But to return. Among the passengers were several very genteel people of both sexes, and one of them in particular, a Mrs. Bunce, a widow living at Chatham, attracted my attention and assiduity during her extreme sickness, which lasted until five o'clock, when we arrived at Gravesend. After refreshing with a little mulled wine, we sett off in the stage, or, as they call it, the tide coach, arrived at Chatham at 9 o'clock at night, and I was well entertained and comfortably lodged at my very worthy and grateful friend, Mrs. Bunce. The 7th, I met with Granger, the gunner of the *Sphinx*, and Mr. Ed. Kynaston, of Ellesmere, one of the midshipmen. I set off at noon with them in the Sheerness passage-boat; we arrived there in three hours, but, finding the ship gone to the Nore, we were ob-

liged to stay at the "Three Tuns" all night. The 8th, hired a boat, and at 1 o'clock got on board the *Sphinx*; was tolerably well received by the lieutenant, was entered upon the books, and ordered to walk the quarter-deck. On the same quarter-deck I found about thirty young gentlemen, a great number of idle hands in a complement of one hundred and twenty men; but, however, we were not allowed to be altogether idle, for in trimming the sails or tacking the ship, it was expected we should attend the cross-jack braces, give a pull occasionally upon the handing of the braces and halyards; and in all sorts of weather a midshipman was expected to pass each easing in reefing a topsail. There I entered upon quite a new scene of life, and soon found by woful experience how little my friends or self knew how to provide for it. I thought meat, drink, and lodging were to be found. I had therefore not provided myself with a bed and bedding. These might be procured from the purser, but not fit for a gentleman. I knew nothing of the King's Order in Council of 1747, establishing an uniform clothing for midshipmen, in order to distinguish them as gentlemen, and had neglected providing myself one. However, I wrote to London for a bed and bedding, an uniform suit, and a good sea chest, a sword; but before they arrived, we sailed, and I had the comfort of roughing it out as well as I could for a fortnight, in a very raw and cold month of April. However, although I was a *greenhorn*, I managed my cards pretty well, and seldom failed securing a good warm hammock, and when once in possession, my brother mids found it was no very easy matter to dispossess me. I had also neglected bringing a good recommendatory friend with me, to introduce me into a good mess, I mean a good case of rum, brandy, or Geneva, and for this first cruise I was so much chagrined, that had not my pride and the fear of being laughed at prevented me, I should most undoubtedly have returned home like the prodigal son, and chearfully have gone to any business or profession my father might choose for me, although before my departure he had given me my choice.

But to return to the transactions of the ship, in which, as well as all other nautical occurrences, I shall account by the astronomical day, commencing from the noon of the preceding day, and ending on the noon of the day reckoned, but in my land itineraries by the natural day or civil computation—

The 9th, Captain Lloyd came on board; the 10th, early in the morning we cleared hawser, unmoored ship, and hove into half a cable on the best bower.

[Then he proceeds to give an account of a cruise to Holland and elsewhere.]

The 23rd April, in the afternoon, I went up to Chatham in the passage-boat, and three o'clock the next morning set out alone in the tide-coach for Gravesend; where I arrived at 8, breakfasted, and went on board the passage-boat for London, where we arrived before noon.

April 24.—I found my chest, clothes, and bedding at one Bovell's, at the "Yacht and Lion" in Wapping, who had sent them down to the Nore after the *Sphinx's* departure thence. I took them over to the Borough of Southwark, and delivered them at the "White Hart" for the Portsmouth waggon.

The 27th, took post-horses at the "White Hart", in the Borough; dined at Kingston; fresh horses to Godalming; ditto to Petersfield, where I arrived at 8 in the evening. Next morning at 10 I set out for Portsmouth; arrived there at noon, and dined at the "Two Blue Posts", where I found Dick Latham of Shrewsbury, brother to Captain Latham, just come down, extremely well-fitted, and recommended to Captain Jasper of the *Prince Henry*. He some time after gave offence to Jasper's mistress, and was discharged; turned out extremely drunken and idle, and after a variety of fortunes, died miserably about eighteen or twenty years after. He was at this time a fine, sprightly, volatile, good-natured lad, and kept good company. Had he adhered to that, he might have commanded many of His Majesty's ships, been an honour to his country, and a comfort to the best of brothers and one of the best officers in the service. I could not help running into this digression, it proves what I have often seen in the subsequent part of my life, and what I never saw one instance to the contrary—that is, whenever a young man gives himself up to drink and bad company, he is irretrievably lost to the world, to himself, and his friends. But to return. At 5 o'clock the London waggon arrived. I got my baggage, hired a boat, and went on board the *Sphinx* at Spithead. While the ship lay there, I spent four or five days at Cowes, in the Isle of Wight, with my kinsman and schoolfellow, Wythen Jones. He served as midshipman some of the last years of the war on board the *Gloucester*, Captain Saunders. After the peace he had been sent out in the *Rose* to the Leeward Islands Station, but being disgusted, and I believe never fond of the service, got his discharge from the *Rose* and was just returned home, determined never to go into the service again. He was a friendly, warm-hearted lad; but was much dis-

pleased with his own family, and declared they should never hear from him unless it pleased God to enable him to appear in his own country master of a fortune and independent of them. Some years after he went to the West Indies in a mercantile way, but what became of him after is not known to this day.

[In June the ship proceeded to the Mediterranean, and after a long voyage returned, and in May 1751, went another voyage to Ireland; returned to Portsmouth on 28th August 1751.]

1751.—A few days after our arrival in Portsmouth Harbour I was one morning surprised with the agreeable sight of my brother Edward, who sent for me to the "Fountain Tavern" without announcing his name. He had been sometime in Orders, and several curacies offered in different parts of the kingdom; but he preferred one in the Isle of Wight, with the hopes of seeing me frequently. His patron, one Mr. Palmer, had the consolidated rectories of Thorwell and Motson, within about a mile of each other, lying near the centre of the island; and Brading, with Yaverland curacy annexed, lying in the eastern part of the island. At Brading and Thorwell were pretty good parsonage houses, in which the pluralist and his curate resided alternately, according to the whim, fancy, or caprice of the former. The neighbourhoods were both good, the people in general civil, obliging, and hospitable; but Sir John Oglander of Nunwell, and Mr. Leigh, Northcourt, were peculiarly obliging to my brother, and always had a plate laid for him at their table; but he was always rather shy and modest, and at the same time studious, so that he seldom partook of their bounty unpressed. Had he continued in the island, where he was universally caressed, and had acquired the reputation of the best preacher, he must unavoidably have lived a very happy life, and would have had church preferment, though perhaps not equal to what he afterwards met with in Lancashire. I took my brother to view the Academy, and everything curious in the dockyard and gun wharf; took him on board the *Sphinx*, the guard-ships, and some of the first-rates and others of the larger ships in ordinary. He was obliged to return the next day to the Isle of Wight, whither in a few days I followed him; an agreeable week (the term of my leave), including the time I was going and returning, for on my way to Shotwell I lay one night at Upper Ryde, and at West Cowes on my return. But my leave is out, let's return to the *Sphinx*.

[August 29, 1751, left for a short cruise until—]

Sept. 29.—Thomas Corbett, Esq., principal Secretary of the Admiralty, and step-father to Captain Lloyd, dying last spring, the captain soon, I believe, perceived his interest upon the decline. The first instance was being ordered upon the Irish Coast, instead of his promised return to the Mediterranean, and having met with some other slights, real or imaginary, he wrote to the Board for leave to quit and retire upon half-pay; in consequence of which, on the 29th, Captain Edward Wheeler came on board. His commission was read, and he superseded Captain Lloyd, and saluted the Admiral with 13 guns, who returned 11 guns. Captain Wheeler was at that time a man who seemed to wish to have his ship well manned, rather than his quarter deck crowded with young gentlemen. He therefore brought but one *follower* with him, Mr. R——n, the son of his taylor in London, and discharged several of those he found on board, whose connections he disregarded, or who had not time to apply for recommendations to him. For my part I had suffered much in my interest by the death of Mr. Corbett; but for the present was continued and taken some notice of, and was recommended by a brother of my former patron, Mr. Wm. Corbett, a Commissioner of the Navy.

[Ship went short cruise and returned to Spithead.]

Nov. 7.—Soon after our arrival at the harbour, I went ashore with Mr. Freeman, one of our midshipmen, whom I may have occasion to mention again some time hence. He was good-natured, generous, and polite, but fond of women, wine, and all manner of dissipation. He led me astray. We joined some others of the same turn at our general rendezvous, the "Two Fighting Cocks". The ship went into dock, out again, and to Spithead, without my appearance, and the evening after she went out, Shove the clerk called upon me with a message from Capt. Wheeler, acquainting me "that as I chose to be a gentleman at large and attend no duty, if I would go on board the next day, I should find my ticket ready made out." I went accordingly for it, and my chest and bedding. Wheeler was not on board, but Davids expressed a vast surprise when I went to take my leave of him, as he had heard the captain speak very kindly of me; but in short he wanted to get rid of as many as he could of us. I gave him some cause, but he discharged several others without assigning any reason at all. Davids and I parted good friends. He said he should soon be after me. He had wrote to the

Admiralty to be superseded, and in a few days one Lieutenant Gardner superseded him accordingly. I have often reflected on the behaviour of Captain Wheeler on this occasion, to turn forth adrift, far from home, far from friends, among a nest of the most abandoned and profligate wretches upon earth. How cruel the man! how unfeeling his heart! On the other hand, had he endeavoured to have reclaimed erring youth, and have recalled them into the paths of virtue and honour by soft perswasions and gentle admonitions, how beneficent, how noble, how divine an act! I thank God, the seeds of virtue, and the religious principles early implanted, together with the advice of an affectionate brother, saved me from utter ruin, dishonour, and destruction. It was not so with some of my fellow-sufferers; but let's cast a veil over *our* foibles and *his* want of the feelings of humanity, candour, and philanthropy, and now proceed to my Journal.

It has been observed before that on the 7th November I was discharged from the *Sphinx*, that day my brother was over from the Isle of Wight. We had dined together at the "Fountain", and were together when the clerk brought the message. He told me that although a poor curate, he could find me an asylum till something could be done. The next day he returned to the island, when I went on board the *Sphinx* for my ticket, chest, and bedding. I staid at Portsmouth the three following days.

The 12th, at half-past 5 P.M. set off from Portsmouth Point in the passage-boat from Benbridge, in the Isle of Wight. Arrived there at 7, and it being extremely dark, hired a guide to conduct me to my brother's at Brading, distant about two miles, and arrived there at 8 o'clock.

The 20th, we went to a jolly and funny christening at a farmers in Yaverland parish. Good cheer and good company, but a tempestuous night, with hail and rain to return home in. The 26th, we dined with a large party at Sir John Oglander's, and generally during my stay there spent the evening in company at home, or the neighbours' houses, and of our party were always two excellent punchmakers, the Lieutenants Crouch and Hervey of the Navy.

The 29th, the Reverend Mr. Palmer came from Shorwell to reside at Brading; and the next day being Saturday, my brother was obliged to go to Thorwell. I saw him no more for upwards of ten years. I staid three days with Parson Palmer, and am sure I should have been welcome for three months, but I was resolved to go to Portsmouth, and if I found no letters there to make me alter my plan, to proceed

for Wales. Not many days after my departure, a letter came to my brother ordering me up to London, there to wait till Mr. Campbell, one of the Lords of the Treasury, or Mr. Corbett of the Navy Office, could send me off again properly. The 3rd December, at 9 in the morning, set off in Williams' passage-boat from Brading, lying at the head of Bembridge Creek, and meeting with calms did not arrive till half-past 3 in the afternoon at Portsmouth. I staid the three following days there to put my embarrassed affairs in some order. I had sold my ticket at 4s. in the pound discount, and spent most of the money, and borrowed five guineas of my brother. All I was therefore worth in cash, amounting to about six or seven guineas, would, I thought, be little enough to carry me into Wales. I owed my taylor and Mrs. Boyd about three guineas each. With the former I left a silver-hilted sword; with the latter my chest and bedding, taking with me nothing but a very small portmantua trunk. Before I go farther let me pay a small tribute to the memory of Mrs. Boyd. She should not be called a Portsmouth landlady--that epithet conveys with it an idea of everything deceitful, villainous, and rapacious; but she was a gentlewoman, suffered no bad women or the least indecorum in her house, would always expostulate with us against extravagance, often refuse us such things as were so, and in short was extremely moderate in her bills; but I must leave the good woman never to see her again, and proceed.

The 7th, at 1 P.M. sett off from the Point in Watson's passage Hoy, at 5 passed by Culshot Castle, and at 9 arrived at the "Vine" at Southampton, where I continued the next day, being Sunday.

The 9th, being fine, frosty weather, I put my portmantua into the Salisbury waggon, and at 3 in the afternoon set off on foot with two gentlemen of the neighbourhood in company. At half-past five arrived at Romsey, being eight miles from Southampton, where I staid the night. The 10th being still frosty weather, set out on foot at 10 o'clock, and dined at the village of White parish, being eight miles from Romsey. Arrived at five o'clock at Salisbury, being eight miles further. Stayed there the next day, and went to the play of *Hamlet*, where I met a recruiting officer, who had been passenger on board the *Sphinx* from Mahar to Gibraltar.

The 12th, having put my portmantua in the Warminster waggon for Bristol, set off at 10 o'clock; at 11 past by the town of Wilton, where the Earl of Pembroke has a

fine seat. A gentleman overtook, and kept me company as far as the village of Stapleford, and at 1 I arrived at the village of Langford, and dined at the "Bell", the only public-house therein, where nothing but the civility of the hostess could attone for the poorness of the entertainment and accommodations. At 3 I departed thence, and continuing my course up the Vale, leaving the river on my left, after passing Deptford, Risherton East, and West Codford Nook, and divers other villages, arrived at 5 at the poor borough (but no market) town of Heytsbury, being about sixteen miles from Sarum. I lodged at the "Angel", where it happened to be club night, into which I was admitted, and met with only one or two decent rational beings.

The 13th, in the morning, walked from Heytsbury to Warminster, and stayed there the remainder of the day. One Jacob Dudden, that kept the "Pack-Horse" Inn, gave me a little dog of the Dutch mastiff breed, which I took with me into Wales, and left with my mother as a *gage d'amour*. After her death in August 1754, it accompanied my niece, Molly Owen, to my father at Ty'n y Coed, where she kept it for her grandmother's sake. When I returned into the country after an absence of ten years, this dog was grown decrepid, grey, and blind with old age. Upon my entering the house it ran with the utmost fury and open-mouthed at me, as I thought to seize me by one of my legs; but upon coming up to me, stopped suddenly, jumped up, and fawned upon me, and it was with difficulty I could prevent its following me wherever I went. Can more be said of the favourite dog of Ulysses, King of Ithaca?

The 14th, hired the carrier's hackney, and set out at half past 8 in the morning from Warminster; at half past 11 passed through the market town of Beggington; dined at the "White Hart" at Philip's Norton; treated the carrier with flip at the sign of the "Ship", and at 6 arrived at Keynsham, being about twenty-four post miles from Warminster.

Dec. 15.—The next day being Sunday I did not start for Bristol till 4 in the afternoon; still frosty weather, and pleasant walking; but not being very well, I got but half way this two miles. I lodged at the "Boar's Head" at Brislington, kept by one Baker, a Cardiganshire man.

The 16th, in the morning, I walked to Bristol, and dined at the "Three Queens Inn and Tavern" in Thomas Street, kept by one Thomas Voisey, who I shall have occasion to mention hereafter as a very honest and friendly fellow. I took a walk after dinner down to the Back, and accidentally met an old

man bound to Chepstow in a small crazy old open boat, with whom I struck a bargain. Soon after, I received my portmantua from the carriers, laid in a sea-stock of a bottle of brandy, and at 3 o'clock sett off with my old skipper and one Basnett, a native of Shrewsbury, from the Back in Bristol. At 4 passed the Hot Wells, and at half past 5 got out at the Avon's mouth into the Severn. We had a contrary wind, which began to blow very hard; the night dark and extremely cold, and shipping water every plunge we still carried sail, and baled with a broken platter and our hats; but the water still gaining upon us, we took down the sail, baled most of the water out, and then they betook themselves to the oars, whilst I steered; but we soon found ourselves carried down Channel with incredible swiftness by the tide of ebb, which runs here with greater velocity than anywhere else in England; this we found out by a vessel's light to leeward (lying at anchor in King's Road), upon which we dropped so fast, that it was with the utmost difficulty we laid hold of her, and stopped the boat at 6 o'clock. We struck the mast, moored the boat securely astern, and took shelter on board that vessel, which we found to be a sloop belonging to Cardiff, one Williams master, and luckily for us bound to Chepstow. My skipper agreed to pilot her there; at 8 they weighed; at 10 passed through the Shoots, and at 11 entered the mouth of the river Wye. In the meantime I got a good supper in Williams' bed. I never was in more danger, neither were there three lives so foolishly or so wantonly risked.

The 17th, at 1 in the morning, we anchored in the river Wye, off the town of Chepstow; went ashore in our own old boat, and I got a bed at the "Three Salmons". Got up at 8, and the tide of flood being made, at 9 sett off up the river with my old skipper; at 2 P.M. we arrived at Abbey Clinton. I landed at the passage-house, and walked to Brockway or Brockwar, which is not above four miles from Chepstow by land. I stayed at the "George" that night, and next morning, the 18th, delivered my portmantua to Owner Vaughan to be carried to Hereford, and after diner I walked to Redbrook, and thence to Monmouth, being eight miles, and put up at Mr. Middleton's, the "Queen's Head". The 19th, at 10 A.M., set out from Monmouth, dined at St. Weonards, hired a horse, at 3 o'clock, at the sign of the "Duke of Chandos", and at half past arrived at Hereford. I made some visits, and slept at Mr. Coningsby Brace's; breakfasted and dined with him next day, and at 3 o'clock set off on foot, passed over Dinmore Hill, and at 5 arrived at the village of Hope, near which lies a fine seat called Hampton Court, belonging to

the Countess of Coningsby. Stopped at the "Falcon" half an hour, and took a guide to conduct me to Mr. Francis Brace's at Newton. The following day my portmantua was forwarded to me from Hereford.

The 22nd, stood sponsor to a son of Frank Brace's, who was christened Herbert.

The 23rd, having borrowed a horse of Mr. Brace, set out at 10 o'clock, went through Leominster and Pembridge, and at 2 o'clock arrived at Presteigne; lodged at the "White Hart", and next morning, the 24th, set out pretty early, and rode *trick and tye* with Mr. John Chinne; dined on bacon and eggs at Llanbadarn Vynydd; at half past 5 got to Llanidloes, and at 6 arrived at Glandulas, where I found my father and mother very well, but much surprised at seeing me, as they supposed I had been in London. A few days after, sent a man with Brace's horse home, and to fetch my portmantua.

1751-2.—The 16th of January, Lord Lisburn sent a purpose messenger over from Crosswood with an order for me to repair on board His Majesty's ship *Bristol* of 50 guns, at Plymouth, and a letter from Capt. Lloyd to Capt. Julian Legge, the commander. The next day I went to Kerry to see my uncle Rogers, and the next day to Berriew to see my eldest brother, Owen, and family.

The 20th, returned to Glandulas, and passing through Llanidloes about 6 o'clock, found the town illuminated, bonfires, ringing of bells, and a great mob drinking in the streets. A messenger was sent after me, and I returned to town, and joined the gentlemen in their carousals and rejoicings at Dr. Jones's, and found it to be for the birth of a daughter to the Earl and Countess of Powis, christened afterwards by the name of Georgina, the King standing godfather in person. The next day I went to take leave of my much esteemed friend, Mr. Glynne of Glynne, and the 22nd I spent at Lower Glandulas, the weather being so bad that I was not permitted to travel.

The 23rd, had cold weather, and a deep snow on the ground at 6 in the morning, and set out for Plymouth on a pretty little horse my father gave me, John Owen, an old tenant of his, by his own particular desire accompanying me with my portmantua and rest of my luggage. Breakfasted at Rhayader, dined at Builth, and at 6 in the evening arrived at the "Golden Lion" at Brecknock, where Lieutenant Davids, late of the *Sphinx*, supped with me. The next morning at 8 o'clock we set off, and passing through Bwlch and Crick Howell at 1, arrived at the "Angel" at Abergavenny,

being from Brecknock twelve computed, and near twenty measured miles. Put my portmantua to the carrier's for Newport, to be thence forwarded to Bristol by water, and after dinner parted with honest old John Owen, who returned home from thence. At half-past 3 set out for Caerleon-upon-Usk, in company with one Campbell, a Scotsman, and leaving the town of Usk on our left, and Pont-y-Pool on the right, we arrived there at 7, and put up at the "Angel". Stayed there all the next day.

The 26th, were called up at 3 o'clock, and set off in company with three tradesmen, who were going to Bristol fair, and at 7 at the New Passage, being seven miles from Caerleon. Stopped at the (Black Rock) passage-house for the high water ferry-boat till half-past 9, when we embarked, in number forty men and women, and twenty-two horses. We did not arrive on the opposite shore till 12 o'clock, it being calm all the time, and so thick a fog that the boat's course was directed by a man blowing a horn at the landing-place. This passage of the Severn is reckoned a league over at high water. Dined at the passage-house in company with several gentlemen and ladies of Glamorganshire and Monmouthshire. After dinner, set off again, and at 5 arrived at the "Three Queens" in Bristol, being eight miles from the ferry. The Newport boat did not get up to Back at Bristol till the 30th, being detained several days at King Road by the great freshes then in the Avon. I got my baggage out of her, and delivered it to the Exeter carrier for Plymouth. During my stay at Bristol I spent my time very agreeably, chiefly in company with Captain Robert Askew of the Navy, who lived *en famille* at the "Three Queens". I received one £20 of one Burgess, a woollen draper, by an order from Jennings of Newtown.

February 1.—I stayed two days and a half at Bristol after the arrival of my baggage, for two agreeable companions whom I got acquainted with there, Mr. Samuel Paul, brother to Sir Onisyphorus Paul, a rich clothier of Gloucestershire, then on his triennial round, and Mr. Alvey, a white hosier from Leicester, on his annual round, with each a servant in livery.

The 2nd February, at noon, we set out from Bristol at half-past 2, arrived at the village of Langford, being ten miles, and dined at a gentleman's house opposite the "White Hart" Inn. At half-past 3 we set out again, and at half-past 5 arrived at the village of Ware, and put up at the "Spread Eagle". We set out the next morning, stopped an hour and

a half at the "Swan" at Bridgwater, being fourteen miles, and 3 o'clock arrived at the "Fountain" in Taunton Dean, being ten miles, where we dined. Supped and spent the evening in company with several gentlemen and tradesmen of the town. Eat for the first time clouted or scalded cream with apple pye—was not that an occurrence worthy to be related? When I got to Plymouth, should not I tell you that I there drank white ale for the first time? *Rien que badinage.*

The 4th, we set off at 9 o'clock, and at 11 arrived at Wellington, being seven miles from Taunton. Dined at the "White Hart", after which my companions went on for Exeter—and stayed, spent the evening, and slept at Mr. Oxenbold's, who was excise officer there, and had made a stolen match with a relation of mine, when in that capacity at Llanidloes. I set out alone at 10 o'clock the next day, dined at the "White Hart" at Columpton, being twelve miles. Set out from thence at 2 o'clock, at 4 passed through the poor mud-built town of Bradwich, and at 6 arrived in the City of Exeter, being twelve miles from Columpton; put up at the "New Inn", kept by Mrs. Rawlins, mother-in-law to Admiral Chambers, where I joined my old companions, Paul and Alvey.

The 6th, at noon, we set out from Exeter. At 3 we stopped to bait at a single house, called Sandy Gate; and at 4 arrived at the "Half Moon" at Newton Abbot, where we dined and stayed ye night.

Feb. 7.—The next morning we set off at half-past 8, and in two hours rode 10 miles to Totness, where we dined at half-past 3; mounted again, and rode twelve miles to King's Bridge, and lay at the "George" that night.

The 8th, we set out at 11, and at one arrived at Modbury, being eight miles, and dined at the "Exeter Inn"; after which we rode eight miles further to Plympton and spent the evening, and lay at the "Exeter Inn" there.

The 9th, in the forenoon, we went to Plymouth, being only five miles, and put up at the "Pope's Head", where I dined, and became afterwards intimately acquainted with two of the lieutenants of the *Mars*, and several pursers and surgeons. It was a connection that proved advantageous to neither my pocket nor constitution. At night, over the bowl, I sold my Welsh pony, saddle and bridle, very well to Mr. Sholrooke, a merchant of the town.

The 10th, my baggage arrived from Exeter, and the next day I went to dock, and there on board the *Bristol*, where I

delivered my credentials to Captain Julian Legge, dined with the lieutenants, and returned ashore in the evening.

Paul and Alvey staid in town five days. I was generally with them. One day, being only ourselves in the room, Paul addressed, "Well, commodore (for so they had always called me), I fancy you must be almost aground by this time. We have lived rather profusely on our journey, and no doubt but your money begins to run short." My mother and my sister-in-law the night before I left home had, for fear of my being robbed of my *all*, sewed in ten guineas within the linings of the plaits of my coat on either side. I took up the skirt of my coat on one side, and showing where part of my hidden treasure was deposited, said, "Look here, gentlemen." They felt and counted them. I then showed them the other side and said, "Ay, and see there again." "Well, well", says Paul, "you may not always be so flush of money, commodore; we desire you to take a walk with us." They took me to some of their principal dealers, to whom they introduced me, and gave them unlimitted powers to supply me with any cash or goods I might have occasion for. This extraordinary instance of friendly confidence proved of infinite use to me afterwards, for it so happened that I had very little previous notice to prepare for either of my voyages to Guinea or the East Indies, and consequently must have gone out badly equipped, had it not been for the credit those gentlemen and my own tolerably honest phisionamy gave me on one Dundridge, a draper and taylor, who supplied me with clothes and money to the amount of about £150. I wrote from Bristol to my brother in the Isle of Wight, concerning the effects I left at Portsmouth. He went over there, released my chest and bedding from Mrs. Boyd, and my sword from Winter the tailor, and in about ten days after my arrival at Plymouth, I received them with a letter of good advice by the "Black Bell" coaster. But let's shift the scene, and proceed to my

Journal of His Majesty's Ship, "Bristol".

When I received orders to repair on board the *Bristol*, I knew she had been a guardship, which was my aversion; but I was given to understand that she was under sailing orders for Guinea. 'Twas not so; but orders had been, some time before, sent from the Admiralty to sheath and fit out the *Eagle* and her for foreign service, and it was supposed they were to sail to the coast of Guinea upon the return of the *St. Albans* and *Assistance*, which had been sent out together with the *Sphinx* in December last, to frustrate the long-formed

scheme of the French to build a fort at Annabriaboc. They found two ships of the line, and a frigate of that nation lying in the road on their arrival, together with a store-ship, with artificers and materials to build the fort; but Captain Buckle, who was the senior captain, brought up, with a spring on his cable, near one, whilst Captain Byrom, in the *St. Albans*, did the same near the other ship, the frigate falling to the lot of the *Sphinx*, and sent an officer to acquaint the French commandant, that if they did not depart in a certain number of hours, he should, agreeable to the King his Master's express orders, immediately commence the action, and endeavour to compel them to depart. Having no alternative but to fight or depart, they chose the latter, and disappeared in the night.

Feb. 12.—The *Assistance* and *St. Albans*, as will hereafter appear, returned in June, and the Annamaboe affair lay dormant for some time. I was entered on board the *Bristol* the 12th of February, and found her at her moorings in Hamoze, preparing for the dock, her guns and most of the stores out, her masts, except the main, shipped, and the people employed getting her balast out and breaking up the ground-tire. Her complement of men was but eighty, only one mate and three midshipmen allowed, and as there were thrice that number that walked the quarter-deck, I had small hopes of being rated. Our number of working hands being so low, even the lieutenants helped upon an emergency. Our business went on but slowly, and as I generally helped and minutely observed everything that was done, I improved myself much in the nature and business of rigging a ship and stowing a hold. At my leisure time I used to improve myself in drawing, if I did not happen to make an unlucky excursion ashore; but I mean now to stick close to my ship, and therefore proceed.

* * * * *

1752.—The 18th, sailed out of the Sound His Majesty's ship, *Glory*. That day, at my own particular request, I was discharged from H.M.S. *Bristol*.

His Majesty's Ship "Eagle".

I observed before, that I was discharged from the *Bristol* the 18th July; but orders being come down from the Admiralty for the *Eagle* to enter her full complement of men, to take in her lower-deck guns and six months' provisions, and to get ready for sea with all possible expedition, previous to my discharge, I waited upon Captain Richard Collins, Commander of the *Eagle*, expressing my aversion to a guard-ship and desire of going to sea, especially with him; at the same time

acquainting him that I doubted not being able to procure suitable recommendations; but as my connections were remote from thence, supposed it may take some time to procure such, he with a grave politeness and benignity peculiar to himself, accepted of me without any such conditions, took me on board, rated me midshipman, and showed me as much civility as if I had been son to the first Lord of the Admiralty. His clerk entered me back upon the books to the 12th, being the day after the last muster by the clerk of the cheque, by which means, though uncommon, I received a week's pay from two ships at the same time.

* * * * *

The 2nd, according to an Act of Parliament, passed in the 24th year of His Majesty George the Second's reign, and in the year of our Lord 1751, the old style ceased here and the new took place; consequently the next day, which in the old or Julian account, would have been the 3rd, was called the 14th in the new or Gregorian, so that all the intermediate nominal days, from the 2nd to the 14th, were omitted, or rather annihilated, and the month of September contained no more than nineteen days in the year 1752.

* * * * *

October 17.—[The ship was paid *off*] such being the orders; I this day paid my devoirs to Captain Collins, got my discharge from the *Eagle* and returned again to the *Bristol* where I was kindly received.

His Majesty's Ship "Bristol".

The 18th I was re-entered on the *Bristol's* books; no orders were yet arrived to clear her for being paid off.

. . . . . .

November 20.—The pay-clerk came on board and paid the petty officers, struck the pendant and put the ship out of commission.

It will appear from the preceding narrative that when the *Cumberland* and *Culloden* joined us in the Sound the 2nd October, we had a squadron consisting of these two ships of 70 guns each, the *Eagle* and *St. Albans* of 60, the *Assistance* of 50, the *Hind* of 20, and the *Falcon* sloop, exclusive of the stationed ships that occasionally put in there. This squadron was equipped upon certain advice being received that the French were fitting one out of equal force, in order as was supposed to carry their scheme into execution at Annamaboe. Whilst we lay in the Sound, the French lay in Brest Water, but that Court hearing of the forward state of our armament countermanded and dismantled all the squadron except one

ship of the line and a frigate. Of this our Ministry had early notice, but a cruizer was ordered to look into Brest Harbour, who confirmed it. The *Cumberland* and *Culloden* were then ordered back to Chatham, where they had before been guardships; the *Eagle* and *Assistance* were ordered into Hamoze, the former together with all the guardships to be paid off, the latter to continue in commission, to wear the Admiral's Flag; and the *St. Albans, Hynd,* and *Falcon* sloop only to proceed to the Coast of Guinea. But soon after, a vague report prevailed that the French had stole another ship, and the *Assistance* was ordered to take in her full complement of men; in a few days more, the report rather gaining ground, she was ordered to sail with all possible despatch. This extraordinary armament ran the expence of the Navy beyond the Parliamentary supply for the current year; and the Ministry resolved upon a saving œconomical plan to make up the deficiency, rather than apply to Parliament for an augmentation of the supply for the Navy in the following session. This will account for all the guardships in England being paid off, and none of them commissioned again for some time. When the *Assistance* sailed on the 1st December, it will appear that Mr. Watson's flag was left flying in Hamoze on board the *Torrington* of 40 guns, at which time, there was not a single ship of the line left in commission in England. In this more than dead and piping time of peace, the metropolis swarming, as well as the royal ports, with miriads of quarter-deck gentry out of employ, living or rather existing in a state of idleness, riot, dissipation and debauchery, I found myself adrift almost in the western extremity of the Island, with no friends to consult with, unless we can call such some money in my pocket, good clothes to my back, a good character, and no very bad person. But what concerned me most was, that in not being borne upon any ship's books I should be loosing that time that I could have wished to be included in the six years then and still required by the regulations of the service to be actually served previous to having or rather being intitled to a commission. Under these circumstances I ventured to apply to Captain George Stepney of the *Assistance,* expressing my great desire for a life of service and activity and abhorrence of an unemployed life of idleness and inactivity. Stepney was the meekest, most humane, and benevolent of men. He heard me, he granted my request, and did it with so much cheerfulness, benignity, and true politeness, as to give double lustre to the action, and a double weight to the obligation. In short, although his quarter-deck was rather over stocked with gentry

that had been forced, in a manner, on his hands, he received me as I have said above, and that very evening, paid me a compliment behind my back, at Doctor Vincent's in the Yard, which may be thought vain in me to mention. "I have," said he, "this day added one of the finest young fellows in the service to my quarter-deck; he is very strongly recommended to me too. By whom, do you think? By nobody but himself, I assure ye." This anecdote was told me by Jack Vincent, my messmate, then present at his father's; and so long as the good man lived, I took all possible pains to justify the good opinion he had conceived of me. I was still more happy in being received on board the *Assistance* because Dick Collins and Jack Vincent, formerly my messmates in the *Sphinx*, became so again on board of her, together with Legatte, brother-in-law to Captain Legge, who, though about the same age as myself, was committed entirely to my care by that good-natured, worthy, but then much distressed man. *Mais c'est assez*—it is high time to step on board.

Hamoze, His Majesty's ship *Assistance*.

November 21.—I was paid off, as before observed, on the *Bristol*, the 20th of November; and the 21st, was entered on board the *Assistance*, Captain George Stepney. That day we received on board all our sails, and bent all except the main-sail; were busily employed in getting on board our provisions.

[On 27th set sail for a voyage that lasted until March 1754.]

1754.—29th March. Hamoze. In the morning Commander Rogers came on board, paid the cook his wages, and put the ship out of commission. The 1st of April was fixed for payment of the ship's company on board the *Vanguard*. The mates and midshipmen were then paid off, but the seamen were only paid up to the 30th June 1753, and were put into the guardship's long-boats, and rowed by the others on board the *Port Mahon*, in the Sound, to be carried to Portsmouth, in order to bring from thence his Majesty's ship *Tyger*. In the course of this voyage we buried one captain, two lieutenants, four midshipmen, one captain's clerk, one surgeon's mate, two carpenters, and sixty-nine petty able, therewith, in all, eighty.

Some time before the *Assistance* was paid off, I wrote to my friend Lord Lisburn, to be recommended to another ship, and soon after received a very polite letter from his son, the Hon. Wilmot Vaughan, then in London, acquainting me that on account of the approaching General Election, all business

at the public boards was in a manner suspended; but as soon as the Lords of the Admiralty returned to town, I might depend upon the Hon. Charles Townshend,—one of them—getting me reinstated to my satisfaction. He was one of the most promising young politicians of that era, afterwards filled many of the highest offices under the Crown, and died Chancellor of the Exchequer in 1767. In the meantime I was once more adrift and losing my time, till Captain Edwards, without any application on mine or my friends' part, recommended his kinsman Chapman, whom the Admiralty would not confirm, as a lieutenant, Conolly, Hodgson, and myself, to the Hon. John Byron, Captain of the *Vanguard*, who received us with a politeness almost peculiar to himself; but as he was allowed in his guardship complement but three rated midshipmen, and an opportunity offered of my being received more to my advantage on board another ship, on the 1st April, my old messmate (in the *Sphinx* and *Assistance*), Jack Vincent, and I were entered on board His Majesty's ship *Augusta*.

(*To be continued.*)

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SEAL OF THE COMMISSARY OF THE DEANERY OF ARUSTLEY.

DALLASTINT.

MONT. COLL.: Vol. xvi.
to face page 259.

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SEAL OF THE COMMISSARY OF THE DEANERY OF ARUSTLEY.

In 1875 a navvy, whilst engaged in drainage works near the site of the Blackfriars of Caerdiff, found the matrix of a large seal, which passed into the possession of Mr. G. E. Robinson of Cardiff. Mr. Robinson presented to the Powysland Museum an impression in wax of the seal, and in 1883 Mr. Spencer Perceval (Treasurer of the Society of Antiquaries, London) presented a cast in gutta-percha of the same, from which the illustration is taken. The matrix is of brass, has a folding scrolled handle, and is 3⅛ inches long, and of pointed oval form. It bears the royal arms (quarterly, France, modern, and England), ensigned with the imperial crown, and with the crowned lion and dragon supporters used by Edward VI and his two sisters, Queen Mary and Queen Elizabeth, and bears the legend :

"Sigillv Regiae Maiestatis ad causas Ecclesiasticas pro Comissario Arwystley."

This is an example of one of those seals which were made, as Sir William Blackstone, in *Archæologia*, vol. iii, p. 414, has shown, in pursuance of the statute of 1st Edward VI, c. 2, which ordained that ecclesiastical jurisdiction was to be exercised in the name of the Crown, and that the seals of the several jurisdictions were all to bear the royal arms with the names of the particular jurisdiction in characters beneath the arms. The statute was soon after repealed by 1st Mary, stat. ii, c. 2, so far as this provision was concerned. But the statutory seal was probably used for some time after the repeal of the Act of Edward VI.

The old historical cantref of Arwystli, previous to the time of Henry VIII, formed part of, or at least was under the rule of the chiefs of, Meirionydd, and

included the three comots of Uwch-coed, Is-coed, and Gwerthrynion; but by the statute passed in the twenty-seventh year of that king's reign, the latter comot, which included five extensive parishes, went to form part of the new county of Radnor, and the remaining portion of the cantref was taken from Meirionydd to constitute a part of Montgomeryshire. These two comots form the ecclesiastical deanery of Arwystli (and also the modern hundred of Llanidloes), embracing within their limits the seven parishes of Llangurig, Llanidloes, Trefeglwys, Llandinam, Carno, Llanwnog, and Penstrowed. (*Mont. Coll.*, vol. i, p. 209.)

The deanery of Arwystli, or Arustley, has always formed part of the diocese of Bangor. At the present day it is included in the archdeaconry of Merioneth. Anciently this was not so. It was under the immediate jurisdiction of the bishop, and in no archdeaconry. This appears from a return dated in 1561, printed in Browne Willis's *Bangor*, pp. 277, 278, which states that Arustley Deanery and the Deanery of Dyffryn Clwyd, Denbighshire, were in no archdeaconry, but under the immediate jurisdiction of the bishop. A similar return made by Roland (Merrick), Bishop of Bangor, to the Privy Council in August 1563, is to the same effect. The bishop says that his diocese has three archdeaconries —Bangor, Arustley, and Merioneth; and the rest of his diocese contains two several deaneries, namely, "Dyffrenclwyd and Kinmerch", in the County of Denbigh; and "Arustley", in the County of Montgomery; and he adds, that "in these there is no archdeacon, but only the bishop occupied the office thereof."

It will be seen, on reference to the *Valor Ecclesiasticus*, 30th Henry VIII, and the map accompanying the Record Commissioners' edition of that survey, that Arwystli was at that time a detached portion of the diocese of Bangor, being separated from it by the Deanery of Kyfeilioc (Cyfeiliog), which then, and as far back as 1291, the time of Pope Nicholas's taxation, belonged to St. Asaph. In 1859 Cyfeiliog was transferred from St. Asaph to Bangor, in exchange for the deaneries

in the latter diocese—Dyffrynclwyd and Kinmerch, already mentioned.

The seal before us shows that the bishop exercised his exclusive jurisdiction, which would include testamentary and matrimonial causes, through his commissary, who, most likely, was one of the clergy of the deanery. The remoteness of the locality from the bishop's court, to which it would, in days gone by, have been burdensome for the inhabitants of the deanery to resort for probate of wills and other purposes, sufficiently explains the appointment of this officer.

In 1603 one Humphrey Morgan, M.A., was commissary of the Bishop of Bangor, "ad exercendum jurisdictionem ecclesiasticam in et per totum Decanatum de Arrustley dictæ diocesis Bangorensis," as appears by his original certificate to the bishop of the number of churches, communicants, non-communicants, and recusants in his deanery, made in compliance with a mandate of Archbishop Whitgift.

This instrument, dated Sept. 20, 1603, is, with others of the same kind, preserved in the *Harl. MS.*, 594, folio 37, and is on parchment under the hand of the commissary, and the seal, now lost, of William Merrick, LL.D., official principal of the consistory court of Bangor. In return for giving him the reference to this document (which we happened to be able to do), Mr. Spencer Perceval has kindly furnished us with a copy of it, which we will append to this paper, as affording matter of local interest. We also are largely indebted to Mr. Perceval for information on this subject, derived from his paper printed in the *Proceedings of the Society of Antiquaries*, vol. ix, pp. 40 and 41.

From the fact of the official principal's seal being used, it would seem that the commissary had at that time no authentic seal of his own. The Edwardian seal now before us, which was then obsolete, had very likely never been replaced.

Some tradition of this jurisdiction, exempt from the archdeacon of the diocese, still exists, for the chancellor of the diocese, in the words of one of the cathe-

dral dignitaries, "claims the right of summoning the clergy and churchwardens [of this deanery] to visitations," no doubt as against the Archdeacon of Merioneth.

M. C. J.

Reverendo in Christo patri et domino Domino Henrico permissione divinâ Bangorensi Episcopo, Humfridus Morgan, artium magister, vester Commissarius ad exercendum jurisdictionem ecclesiasticam in et per totum Decanatum de Arrustley dictæ vestræ Bangorensis diocesis sufficienter [fue...itus] Reverentiam tanto Reverendo Patri debitam cum honore Noveritis nos Reverendum vestrum mandatum de executione literarum Reverendissimi in Christo Patris et Domini, Domini Johannis providentia divina Cantuariensis Archiepiscopi, totius Anglie Primatis et Metropolitani nuper quâ decuit reverentiâ recepisse. Cujus vestri mandati auctoritate et vigore nos Commissarius antedictus de omnibus et singulis articulis in dictis reverendissimis literis descriptis et mencionatis (Convocatis coram nobis omnibus et singulis rectoribus vicariis et curatis dicti decanatus, eorumque responsionibus ad eosdem articulos per nos in eâ parte in scriptis receptis) cum eâ quâ fieri potuit diligentia inquiri fecimus.

Tenores autem responsionum [separabilium] predictarum sic in eâ parte per nos receptarum nos juxta vestri mandati effectum in schedulâ presentibus annexâ vestre paternitati auctenticè transmittimus per presentes. In cujus rei testimonium sigillum venerabilis viri magistri Willelmi Mericke Legum Doctoris Curieque Consistorie Bangorensis officialis principalis presentibus apponi fecimus.

Dat' vicesimo die Septembris anno Domini Millesimo sexcentesimo tertio; Regnique Domini nostri Regis Jacobi primo.

Parchment, seal lost. HUMFREY MORGAN.

The Return on paper follows. It gives names and particulars of the six parishes:—

Llanddinamo cum capellâ de Penestroyth, communicants	1,000
Llanidlos, comm.	1,200
Llan Curicke, comm.	1,000
Llan Wonocke, comm.	450
Trefegleyes, comm.	527
Carnoo, comm.	300[1]

No non-communicants. No recusants.

[1] These numbers must be much exaggerated.

Mont. Coll., Vol. xvi to face p. 263.

LLANERFYL OLD CHURCH.

HISTORY OF THE PARISH OF LLANERFYL.

By the Rev. G. EDWARDS, M.A., F.R. Hist. Soc.,
Rector of Llangadfan.

(*Continued from p.* 99.)

Section 3.—Ecclesiastical.

The Church of this parish, which is dedicated to Erfyl or Eurfyl Santes, is supposed to have been built about the end of the sixth or the beginning of the seventh century. She, as we have already stated, is supposed to be the daughter of St. Padarn, the founder of the bishopric of Llanbadarn fawr. But others are of opinion that she was the same person as Ursul, the daughter of Dionatus, the Prince of Cornwall, who was martyred, with eleven thousand virgins, on the coast of France, having been shipwrecked there and fallen into the hands of the barbarians. Their intention was to land in Armorica, and to be married there to the remains of Maximus' army, after its defeat by Theodosius, in the year 388. But the date of this event does not coincide with the date assigned to the erection of Llanerfyl Church.

The *Taxation* of Pope Nicholas in 1291 describes Llanurvyl as a rectory and vicarage, the former valued at £4 3*s.* 4*d.*, *dec.* 8*s.* 4*d.*, and the latter at £2 6*s.* 8*d.*, *non decimat.* In the *Valor* of Henry VIII, the two are combined, the gross value of "Rectoria de Llanvivell" being £10, and the net £9 3*s.*, the tenths 18*s.* 3*d.* The tithes were commuted in 1849 at £435, but out of that the sum of £34 4*s.* 9*d.* was transferred from Coed Talog township towards the endowment of the district

church of Dolanog. There is £5 a year of tithes also assigned to the parish clerk, arising from the farm of Llyssyn. Moreover, there are twenty-four acres of glebe, and a house, erected in 1824, and enlarged and improved in 1866. The patronage of the living, which belonged to the bishop of the diocese, has been transferred by the recent Act for reapportionment of episcopal patronage, to the Bishop of St. David's, and afterwards exchanged by him with the Lord Chancellor for the living of Lampeter Velfry in Pembrokeshire.

The old church was taken down in February 1870, and rebuilt by September 6th, in the same year. It was not so large as the new one—as it had no division of chancel and nave ; and had a western gallery and belfry, and a south porch like the present one. The roof was arched inside, and the timber of it decorated, and this was cleaned and replaced in the new building. An old shrine, of rude workmanship, which stood in a recess in the east wall of the old church, has been transferred into the new vestry ; and the five painted panels, which were in front of the old gallery, have also been set up there. The central picture is a representation of the birth of our Lord, and on either side, His Baptism and Crucifixion. The extreme panels represent Moses with the Tables of the Law in his hands, and St. Paul, the Gospel ; and a scene from the Apocalypse. As a work of art it possesses some merit. The new church is built of the local blue stone of the district ; the dressings of the windows, the porch, the bell-turret, the chancel-arch, and the vestry-room doorway, of Shelvocke red stone. The chancel, which is divided from the nave by a screen and an arch, is paved with Maw's encaustic tiles, and it has a reredos of the same material. The chancel seats, the pulpit, with its carved open panels, the reading desk and the lectern, were all made of the oak from the old church, but the seats in the nave are of pitch pine. The west window is filled with stained glass by Done and Davies of Shrewsbury, representing the Good Shepherd ; and is the gift of Thomas Newill, Esq., of

Welshpool. The old octagonal font, with its Tudor flowers, was repaired and retained, and the old bell rehung, which has on it this inscription: "God save his Church, 1693." The architect was the late Mr. Edward Haycock of Shrewsbury; the accommodation for 200; and the cost £1,600. The principal contributors were the Earl of Powis, who bore one third of the whole expense, and Sir Watkin Williams Wynn, Bart., and grants from the Diocesan Church Building Society, the Carey Fund, and the Incorporated Church Building Society.

The Rectors of the parish, as given by Browne Willis and the Rev. D. R. Thomas, are the following:—

1537, Ieuan ap Gruffid; Vicar of Llanfor, 1561.

1556, John ap David; Vicar of Erbistock and Rector of Llanycil.

1557, David ap Ieuan ap Lloyd; 1562, Rector of Llanwrin; 1577, S. R. of Pennant; 1579, Vicar of Welshpool.

1571, Hugh Davies; 1590, Vicar of Ysgeifiog; 1595, Canon; 1596, Rector of Manafon; 1598, Rector of Marchwiel and Prebendary of Meifod; 1599, S. R. of Llansannan; 1600, Vicar of Ruabon.

1577, Thomas Wynne.

1587, Peter Williams; 1626, Master of Ruthin School; 1630, Rector of Heneglwys; 1632, Vicar of Welshpool; 1644, S. R. of Llanfor.

1598, Griffith Jenkin, M.A.

1636, Humphrey Evans.

1637, William Langford, M.A.; 1665, Vicar of Pennant; 1668, Vicar of Llanyblodwel; 1672, Vicar of Llansantffraid.

1663, Theodore Roberts.

1675, Robert Nightingale; 1715, Vicar of Llanfair Caereinion.

1718, Lewis Price, A.M.

1737, David Evans, M.A.; 1776, Rector of Llanymyneich.

1776, George Davies; P.C. of Flint, 1766-1823, where he resided.

1823, John Lloyd.

1837, Lewis Richards, B.A.

1860, Joseph M'Intosh, B.A., Christ Church, Oxford, 3 Class Lit. Hum., 1841; Deacon, 1842; Priest, 1843; Curate of Welshpool, 1842-1847; R. of Llanwyddelan, 1847-1860; and P.C. of Llanllugan, 1851-60.

1882, Samuel Reed, St. Bees, Rector of Trefonen; Deacon, 1870; Priest, 1871.

The following Inventory of the goods, books, ornaments, etc., belonging to the church at Llanerfyl, is found amongst the records of the parish for the year 1742 :—

A true and perfect inventory of all and singular of the goods, books, ornaments, and utensils belonging to the parish and parish church of Llanerfyl, in the county of Montgomery and diocese of St. Asaph, August 27th, 1742.

1 Welsh Bible, in 2 vols. folio, printed 1690.

1 Welsh Common Prayer Book, folio, printed 1710.

1 folio English Bible, the gift of Mary, the wife of Mr. Julius Cæsar, late of Whitford, in Flintshire, to this parish church, 1638.

1 English Common Prayer Book, folio, printed 1727.

1 old Welsh folio Bible, with black letter print.

1 old Welsh Common Prayer Book, imperfect.

1 large Surplice of holland.

1 green pulpit cloth, 1 green cushion for pulpit.

1 blue cloth or carpet for the Communion Table.

1 fine linen cloth and 1 napkin for Communion Table.

1 silver cup, with the inscription, "G. E." "M. W."

1 large pewter flagon, 1 small pewter plate.

1 old bier cloth, 1 chest with three locks.

2 old Register Books, and 1 new, cloth.

1 Book of *Homilies*, in English, folio.

1 Terrier in parchment. 1 Bier.

From the minutes of a Vestry held at Llanerfyl, July 15th, 1675, when Lord Herbert resided in the parish, and took the Chair, for the purpose of regulating and settling the seats, and adorning the church, we find that many alterations and improvements were ordered to be made at the time in the church. Among them,

1. The rood loft was ordered to be taken down, all except the door under it, which was to be left to make a distinction between the body of the church and the chancel.

2. With the additional timber, the seats, by way of a gallery, to be erected below the font for the parishioners in lieu of the said rood.

3. That the reading-seat be joined with mortar to the place where the pulpit stood.

4. That the whole church be paved with bricks, as well under the seats as within the alleys; and that my Lord Herbert, for this one time, give the parish the bricks to do it, as also as much timber, as with what there is, there may be enough for this alteration.

5. There being complaints from the upper part of the parish for want of seats in church, it was agreed that Mr. John Edwards, Mr. William Williams, Mr. Watkin Evans, Mr. Henry Davies, Mr. Evan Griffiths, Mr. Morris Evans, Mr. Griffith Kyffin, Mr. Edward Thomas, together with the Parson of the parish and the churchwardens for the time being, or any five of them, may determine all things touching the seats of the said parishioners and settling seats for the said parishioners, and set the names of the messuages on the back of the proper seats.

6. That the church be well and sufficiently tiled, and the churchyard well defined by land-marks at the common expense of the parish, together with what shall be done by the carpenter, joiner, and pavier for the inside of the church.

7. It was agreed that all persons wishing a grave or graves to be made within the chancel or rood, either in the alley or under the seats, shall pay a mark in current English money to the Parson of the parish, for his use only; and also, in one month after the burial, shall cause the grave or graves to be well beaten with new earth, and paved with good bricks. And it was further agreed that all persons who shall cause a grave or graves to be opened and made within the body of the church below the said rood, shall pay a noble in money for such graves, to the churchwardens for the time being, for the use and benefit of the parish in general, for and towards the repairs of the church and churchyard. And all persons that cause a grave to be cut open within the said church, shall, for each week he shall suffer the said grave to be unpaved with bricks, the first month being completed, after that time pay two shillings a week for and towards the repairs of the said church.

In reference to these articles, we, whose names are hereunder written, do approve, ratify, and allow of all the particulars therein inserted.

Witness our hands, this 26th day of September, 1675.

I. Dv. Evans.	Herbert.
Henry Davies.	Johanes Evans.
Edward Beynon.	Griffith Kyffin.
Morris Evans.	Watkin Evans.
David Evans.	J. O. Read.

It is supposed that the inhabitants of Cefn Llys Uchaf had no seats in Llanerfyl Church before the time referred to in the foregoing minutes. That township, being abbey land belonging to Strata Marcella, had for the use of its inhabitants a chapel at Dolwen, now gone down, and hardly a vestige of it left. The monks had a grange near the chapel, which stood on a field not far from Dolwen, where there are a few stones yet remaining to denote the spot. The township of Cefn Llys Uchaf was given by Prince Gwenwynwyn to the Abbey of Strata Marcella in the year 1201, and forms part of the manor of Talerddig, which at present is the property of Sir Watkin Williams Wynn, Bart.

From the records of a Vestry subsequently held in pursuance of the above order, we find that the seats in the parish church were ordered, settled, and allotted as follows :—

First, the seat of the Right Honourable Edward Lord Herbert, Baron of Chirbury and Castle Island, was on the south side of aisle in the upper end of the church.

II. The seat of Edward Vaughan of Llwydiarth, Esq., is next adjoining to the said Lord Herbert's seat.

III. The bench next the wall on the same side: 1. William Williams, Dolanog; 2. Edward Thomas ap Oliver; 3. Watkin Evan, Daniel Gough; 4. Evan Griffith Evans; 5. Thomas Rees; 6. William Morris; 7. Edward Watkin; 8. Howell Morris.

IV. The second seat on the same side: 1. Watkin Evan, John ap Morris; 2. Evan Roberts; 3. Edward Gammon; 4. Morgan John Morgan; 5. Edward Isaac; 6. Lawnt y Gwynt's seat; 7. David Evans.

V. The third bench on the same side: 1. Griffith Kyffin; 2. David Thomas ap Oliver; 3. David Griffith; 4. Roger Lloyd; Watkin Evan of Cannon; 6. Cwm Derwen's seat; 7. David Thomas Griffith.

VI. The women's seats on the south side below the old rood: 1. Next to the wall the Neuadd wen's seat; 2. Between that and the alley, Edward Thomas ap Oliver, and Edward Watkin's seat; 3. Below Neuadd wen's seat, next to the wall, Watkin Evans and David Gough's seat; 4. Between that seat and the alley, Evan David; 5. Evan Griffith Evan; 6. A seat for the

Parson's family ; 7. The long bench on the side of the wall for the tenants of Llyssyn.

On the north side of the church : The first and second seat, and likewise the bench next to the wall on the same side, are for the Right Honourable Edward Lord Herbert.

Morris Evans, on the lower end of the bench—next to the wall, for his land in Craen.

The middle seat on the same side : 1. John Williams ; 2. Morris Evans ; 3. Evan David Evans ; 4. John ap John.

A seat at the upper end of the third bench for the heir of Eyneon, David Harry.

The third bench on the said side : 1. Henry David ; 2. John Davies ; 3. Thomas Howell ; 4. David Evan Robert.

The bench with the back to Mr. Edward's pew and the reading pew : 1. For Coed Talog ucha ; 2. For Dolau in Nant yr Eira, and David Morris ; 3. Mr. John Edwards of Melin y Grug for his land in Crane ; 4. For Thomas Middleton—his seat for his lands in Crane.

Consented unto by the subscribers.

HERBERT.

DAVID THOMAS.	JOHANES EVANS.
HENRY BANGE(R).	EDWARD HAYMAN.
JS. EDWARDS.	MORRIS EVANS.
WILL. WILLIAMS.	The × of THOMAS HOWELL.
DAVID EVAN ROBERTS.	J. O. READ.
JOHN O. DAVIES.	WATKIN EVAN.
EDWARD LLYWARCH.	GRIFFITH KYFFIN.

Briefs for Collections were frequently issued at one time by Government, and the collections were made either in church on Sunday, or from house to house in the week after reading of the Brief the previous Sunday in church. Several of them are recorded in the registers as having taken place at Llanerfyl. We extract the following, which is given at greater length than the rest :—

Collections in the parish of Llanerfyl, Jan. 2nd, 1670, for the "Redemption of Christian captives from Turkish slavery".

	£	s.	d.
From the Right Honourable Lord Herbert - -	1	0	0
„ Mrs. Arabella Herbert - - -	0	2	6
„ Mrs. Alis Herbert - - -	0	2	6
„ Mrs. Mary Warburton - - -	0	2	6

	£	s.	d.
From Mrs. Bridgett Whittingham	0	0	6
„ Mr. John Read	0	7	0
„ Mr. Thomas Francis	0	1	0
„ Mr. John Evans	0	1	6
„ Mr. Edward Browne	0	1	0
„ Captain Basnett	0	2	0
„ Mrs. Judith Herbert	0	0	6
„ Mrs. Elizabeth Monro	0	0	6

Collected Jan. 8th :—

From the Rector of the Parish	0	5	0
„ Mr. Bowen	0	5	0
„ Watkin Evans	0	2	0
„ Mrs. Sarah Lloyd	0	0	6
„ Howell Morris	0	0	6
„ David Thos Griffith	0	0	6
„ David Lloyd	0	0	6
„ Owen David Evan	0	0	6
„ John Hinton	0	0	6
„ Rest. Morgan	0	0	4
„ Morris Oliver	0	0	4
„ John Lewis	0	0	6

Collected Jan. 9th :—

From John ap John	0	1	0
„ David ap David	0	0	4
„ Margaret John	0	0	6
„ Evan Humphrey	0	0	6
„ Thomas Morris	0	1	6
„ John Lloyd	0	0	6
„ Edward Watkin	0	1	0
„ Watkin Edward	0	1	0
„ Edward Richd. Evan	0	0	6
„ Evan Griffith	0	1	6
„ David Thomas ap Oliver	0	0	6
„ Rich. Thomas	0	0	6
„ Thomas Howell William	0	0	6
„ Jeffrey Humphrey	0	6	6
„ John Thomas ap Howell	0	0	6
„ William Morris	0	0	6
„ Evan John Evan	0	0	6
„ Griffith Kyffin	0	2	0
„ David Evan Robert	0	0	6
„ Morris Evan Richd.	0	1	0
„ Hugh Rhytherch	0	0	6
„ Henry Davies	0	1	0

	£	s.	d.
From David Morris Evan - - -	0	0	3
„ William John ap Rich. - - -	0	0	4

Ita testamur,

RICHARD BOWEN
GRIFFITH KYFFIN } Churchwardens.

Other collections are mentioned in the parish registers made by order of Briefs, such as one for the use of the inhabitants of Presteign, and towards the repair of Kidwelly Church, and for the use of the French Protestants in 1682. The sums collected upon these occasions were very small, generally amounting only to a few shillings. Collections by Briefs became so numerous in the course of time, that they were complained of as a heavy burden upon the public, and most people were like Pepys, who, in his *Diary*, under date of June 30, 1661, says :—"Lord's Day. To church, where we observe the trade of Briefs is now come up to so constant a course every Sunday that we resolve to give no more to them." They were abolished by Act of Parliament in the year 1828.

The present Rectory house was commenced in the year 1824, and not finished until 1839. It appears to have been in building during the whole time that Rector Lloyd possessed the living. It was enlarged in 1866 by the addition of three rooms and a pantry. The old rectory was a low, two-storeyed house, slated, and at the end of the meadow on one side of the present house. This was taken down in the year 1827.

Charities.—Several small charities given to the poor, which are mentioned in the Parliamentary returns of 1786, have since that time been lost. Among these are the following :—

	£	s.	d.	
Francis Herbert - -	0	9	2	per annum.
Henry David Oliver - -	0	4	7	„
Lady Herbert - -	0	5	6	„
John Evans - -	0	3	2	„
	£1	2	5	

There is one charity still remaining, which was given by a lady of the name of Priscilla Forster, of the parish of St. James', in the county of Middlesex. She is supposed to be descended from the Herbert family. This lady left £300 for the purpose of promoting education in the parish. We shall have occasion to enter into the particulars connected with this charity when we come to the subject of education in the place.

Some entries belonging to the Herberts are found in the registers during the time they resided in the parish. Among them are the following :—

MARRIAGES, 1663.

Ricardus Herbert et Florentia Herbert in matrimonio conjuncti fuerunt Augusti vicesimo primo, '63.

BAPTISMS, 1668.

Maria Filia Ricardi Herbert Armig. et Florentiae ejus uxoris baptiz. fuit decimo quinto die Octobris.

Edwardus filius Ricardi Herberti Armiger. baptizatus erat quarto die Augusti 1665.

The old Yew-tree, already mentioned, on the south side of the church, so remarkable for its size, form, and age, is tolerably well described in the following *englynion* (stanzas) by a native poet, Mr. Evan Breese, *Ieuan Cadfan* :—

"Un bonyn ywen bena,—byw ydyw,
Yn bedwar gwasgara;
Fel pedwar pren, diben da,
Yn gydfawr hardd gysgodfa.

"Y tramawr gangau trymion—byw oesawl,
A bwysant ar bolion;
Breuawl, ddiffygiawl, heb ffon,
Aeth harddwch y byth wyrddion!"

TRANSLATION.

"One stock of the principal yew tree,—full of life,
Is divided into four different branches;
The four trees thus form,
By their united junction, a grand shelter.

"The heavy large branches,—with lasting life,
Lean upon supporting poles;
Frail, and unable to stand without support,—
The beauty of the evergreen has vanished."

The earliest Registers in the rector's keeping date from the year 1626. There are thirteen volumes of registers of every kind, from the earliest date to the present time. Some deficiencies of years and some irregularities are found in them; and the entries are not often in the handwriting of the clergyman, and most of the entries are only certified at the end of the year by the churchwardens only.

A very neat Monument to the memory of the late rector, the Rev. Joseph McIntosh, who died last year, has been lately erected in the churchyard by the members of the Montgomeryshire Clerical Association. The following is the inscription upon it :—

"Joseph McIntosh, Oxon., Priest, 21 years Rector of this Parish, died Febry. 6th, 1882. Aged 62.

"'So he giveth his beloved sleep.'"

"Erected by the members of the Montgomeryshire Clerical Association, of which he was Secretary for 36 years."

We here insert a copy of the last Terrier of this parish, made in the year 1856 :—

"A True Terrier of all the glebe lands, rectory house, and out-buildings, communion plate, ornaments, and other rights belonging to the rectory and parish church of Llanerfyl, in the county of Montgomery, and diocese of St. Asaph, now in possession of the Rev. Lewis Richards, B.A., made this first day of July 1856. This terrier is a renewal in great part of terriers made in the years 1638, 1685, 1749, 1774. Copies of these four terriers, with four other terriers, are deposited at the registry of St. Asaph.

"1. The Rectory house is a strong-built house of stone and bricks, commenced in the year 1824, by the late rector, and finished by the present rector in the years 1838 and 1839. The house consists of two parlours, two kitchens, entrance hall, cellars, five bedrooms, three closets, and one store-room. The out-buildings are a stable, cow-house, barn, cart-house, and a pigstye.

"The glebe lands in all are 28 acres—of three kinds, of unequal value, namely, fourteen acres of meadow and pasture land about the house; two allotments of common in the township of Crane, on Craig y Geifr, 11a. 0r. 3p.; two allotments of turbary, one at Llyn Hir, 1a. 0r. 38p., and one at Llyn y Bugail, 2a. 1r. 11p.

"3. The tithes of the parish have been commuted for a rent-charge of the sum of £435. The parish clerk is paid by a rent-charge of £5 on Llyssyn, and by fees and offerings at funerals.

"4. The communion plate and ornaments of the church are:—One silver chalice, containing a pint, marked 'G. E.,' 'M. W.'; one pewter flagon, containing about two quarts; one old pewter plate; one new patera, with 'Glory' in the centre, presented by the present rector; one brass chandelier with six candles, by the present rector; the Communion Table, raised, and railed in by the railing of the old church at Welshpool, by the present rector; one substantial octagonal dial-post, and one new brass dial-plate, also presented by the present rector.

"The churchyard is well fenced by a stone wall. Several yew trees and other ornamental trees have been planted in the churchyard and about the rectory, and the common allotment, by the present rector. We, the undersigned rector, churchwardens, and principal inhabitants of the parish of Llanerfyl, do hereby declare that the above statement or terrier of the rights belonging to the rectory and parish church of Llanerfyl is true. As witness our hands, this 1st day of July 1856.

"Lewis Richards, Rector.
"Humphrey Gardner, } Church-
"David Jones. } wardens.
"Evan Griffiths.
"David R. Thomas.
"Thomas Evans.
"Hugh Jones.
"David Davies.
"Watkin Watkin.
"David Ingram."

Section 4.—Education.

The progress of elementary schools in these parts has been very satisfactory of late years, since Government took the thing up to insist upon every parish to have an efficient school maintained in it. In the parish of Llanerfyl there had been an endowed school of some pretensions carried on for a considerable time, when little was done in the cause of education in the surrounding parishes. And this was owing to a bequest of £300 made by a lady of the name of Priscilla Forster, living in London, in the year 1728, towards establishing a school in the parish. It is said she was descended from the Herbert family, but this has not been satisfactorily proved, nor can it be ascertained what connection she had with this part of the country, or with the parish of Llanerfyl.[1] The money was

[1] "1729, May 11, Mrs. Priscilla Forster in the East Cloister" is the entry of her burial in the Westminster Abbey Register (published by the Harleian Society, vol. x, 1875, p. 325). The indefatigable editor of that interesting volume, the late Col. Joseph Lemuel Chester, LL.D., in his elaborate notes has given some information relating to Mrs. Priscilla Forster and her connections, which, for the purpose of her future identification, we think it well to reproduce.

As to herself, Colonel Chester notes (p. 325) :—"The Funeral Book says that she died 8 May, aged seventy-two. Her will, as of St. James, Westminster, widow, dated 17th March 1728-9, with a codicil 20th April 1729, was proved 14th May following, by Elizabeth Walker of the same parish, spinster, residuary legatee. She mentioned no relations, but left legacies, varying from £5 to £50 to several friends. She bequeathed £300 to the parish of Llanerfyl, co. Montgomery, for educating poor children, and the school founded therewith is still in operation."

She had a daughter Catherine, whose burial is thus registered (p. 318) :—"1726, June 26, Mrs. Catherine Forster in the East Cloister." Colonel Chester notes—"The Funeral Book says that she died 23rd June, in her forty-third year. Letters of administration to her estate, as of St. James, Westminster, spinster, were granted 2nd August, 1726, to her mother, Priscilla Forster."

Mrs. Eleanor Horseman, to whom Mrs. Priscilla Forster left a legacy of £10, and who is described in her will as living in Broad-

invested in the purchase of a freehold called Ty Glan y Menial, a short distance from the church in the parish. This freehold consisted at first of twenty-two acres of land, and twenty acres more of allotment were added to it in the course of time. And about the year 1800, timber worth about £150 or £200 was cut down upon this land, and the proceeds, together with £100 subscription raised in the place, laid out in the erection of a house and buildings for a residence for the master, and a place in which the school was to be held. In order to give some further information respecting this charity, we take the following account of it from the Report of the Charity Commissioners for the year 1838

"Priscilla Foster of the parish of St. James, in the county of Middlesex, by Will bearing date 17th March 1728, gave and devised to the parish of Llanerfyl the sum of £300, to be paid out and employed at interest immediately after her decease, in some of the funds of Government, until the purchase of a

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way in Westminster, died 26th August 1744, aged 67, and was buried in the East Cloister on 28th August (p. 366).

Her only daughter Catherine dying may account for Mrs. Priscilla Forster leaving £300 to Llanerfyl parish. But what her connections with that parish were does not appear.

Colonel Chester refers to other entries, which he thinks may relate to her connections.

Marriage (p. 17.): "1679, Nov. 6, Mr. Edmund Forster and Mrs. Catherine Munday."

Burials (p. 223): "1689, June 17th, Mrs. Catherine Forster" [cloisters]. (P. 226). "1690, May 16th, Mrs. Catherine Forster the elder" [cloisters]. "The probability is that the marriage was her own, and the first burial that of her daughter."

Four burials of the Munday family are recorded, viz. :—Mrs. Munday, 7th June 1670. Mr. W. Munday, 24th April 1678. Mr. Francis Munday, 14th Dec. 1682. Mrs. Francis Munday, 4th March, 1685-6. All of whom were probably connected with Katherine Munday, who married Edmund Forster. With reference to Mr. Munday, Colonel Chester suggests "he was probably a minor official or servant connected with the Abbey." The connection of Edmund Forster with Priscilla Forster does not appear. From the the whole of the above being buried in the Abbey it seems a natural inference, that like the Mundays, they must have had some connection, official or by service, with the Abbey.

freehold estate might offer, and then to be employed in such purchase; and she desired the minister and churchwardens of Llanerfyl to look out and inquire for such purchase; and she declared her mind and memory to be, that until such purchase should offer, all the interest of the said principal sum should be paid into the hands of the minister and churchwardens of the said parish for the time being; to be by them laid out and employed in educating and instructing as many poor children belonging to the said parish as by the said interest could possibly be educated and instructed. And after such purchase of a freehold estate be made, then that the rents and profits thereof should in like manner be paid into the hands of the minister and churchwardens of the said parish; to be by them employed in like manner, in the educating and instructing as many poor children belonging to said parish of Llanerfyl as the rents and profits could possibly educate and instruct; and she appointed Elizabeth Walker sole executrix of her will.

"By indenture, bearing date the 4th of April 1738, made between Henry Jones and Sinah his wife, and Humphrey Parry, of the first part, Elizabeth Walker (therein described as the executrix of the will of Priscilla Foster) of the second part, and David Evans, Clerk, minister of the parish church of Llanerfyl, Evan David and Thomas Roberts, churchwardens of the said parish, of the third part; reciting the will of the said Priscilla Foster, and that the said minister and churchwardens of the said parish of Llanerfyl, not having been then able to find a convenient purchase wherein to invest the said sum of £300, the same had been placed out upon Government securities, and the interest and produce thereof had been applied pursuant to the directions of the said will; and further reciting that the said David Evans, Evan David, and Thomas Roberts, were advised that the land, tenements, and hereditaments thereinafter mentioned, might be a convenient purchase wherein to invest the said sum of £300, paid by the said Elizabeth Walker, to the said Humphrey Parry, by and with the consent of the said Henry Jones and Sinah his wife, and David Evans, Evan David, and Thomas Roberts, they, the said parties hereto of the first part, granted to the said parties of the third part, and their heirs, a messuage, tenement and lands, with the appurtenances, called Ty'n Glan y Menial, situate in the several townships of Crane and Kenewill, in the county of Montgomery, to hold the same upon the trusts and for the several uses, interests, and purposes of the said will before mentioned.

"This estate consists of a house and 41 acres of land, 23

acres of which are morass land, the whole of which, with the exception of about 3 acres, has been recently drained by the late schoolmaster. The remainder of the land is an allotment of common of 20 acres, which will maintain about 60 sheep.

"The house affords a residence for the master as well as a school-room, and is in good repair.

"The management of the estate is left exclusively to the schoolmaster, and, by a recent valuation, it is estimated at £32 per annum; but, previous to draining, the highest rent received for it was £20 per annum.

"The minister and churchwardens of the parish for the time being act as trustees of this property; but no conveyance was produced of the real estate subsequently to the first purchase.

"In compliance with the will of the testatrix, education is afforded to the fullest extent. The child of every parishioner is eligible to be admitted. The instruction given is in some respects more than ordinarily extensive. One boy, who has recently left school, was a proficient in algebra. Many of the present pupils, both girls and boys, are in decimal fractions. The only books which are read are the Testament and the spelling-books. Instruction is also given in writing.

"In 1835, the number of boys was 86, and of girls 60, making a total of 146 children in a population rather under 1,000.

"The children are all educated in the same room and at the same time.

"The schoolmaster, Thomas Lloyd, is nephew of the rector, and has been appointed about seven or eight years. He resides in the dwelling-house. His total emoluments are the rents of the estate, which is now in the occupation of his uncle, who pays him a high rent of £32 per annum.

"About thirty-five years since, the present rector, who was the schoolmaster at the time, pulled down the old tenement, then let to the parish at a rental of £3 per annum; and, by the sale of timber cut down on the estate, amounting in value to £150 or £200, together with £100 subscribed by the parish, the present dwelling-house and school-house were erected, both under the same roof."—*Report of the Charity Commissioners*, 1838.

From the minute of a vestry held April 10th, 1738, we find that there was a deficiency in the funds raised for the above purpose, and it was agreed that the churchwardens be reimbursed and indemnified out of

the legacies and gifts which from time to time had been left to the parish for the use of the poor. Among these, £10 left by Francis Herbert, Esq., £5 by Henry David Oliver, both sums then in the hands of Joseph Thomas; and £6 by the late Lady Herbert, in the hands of Evan Williams; and £3 10*s.* by John Evans, then in the hands of Evan Griffiths; in all, £24 10*s.*; the vestry agreed should be raised by the churchwardens and applied towards the expenses of the above charity and to their own indemnification. This accounts for those charities which the Commissioners state in their Report that no information could be afforded respecting them.

There are other reports of the state of this school before and after the above of the Charity Commissioners, but in no case are they so favourable as the above. Mr. William Jones, in his "Statistical Account of the Parishes of Llanerfyl, Llangadfan, and Garthbeibio," published in the *Cambrian Register* for 1796, has the following statement respecting it:—

"The schoolmaster is to be appointed by the rector and churchwardens for the time being; but the wardens, being officers annually chosen, never think it worth their while to interfere in that affair, so that the choice is left wholly to the incumbents, who (being frequently more mindful to promote their own interest than the benefit of the parishioners, agreeably to the will of the donor) constitute their curate, clerk, or other dependents, schoolmasters, who perform the office generally so carelessly, that few of the parishioners, except such as live near the village, think it worth the expense of their maintenance to send their children thither. Upon the whole, it is but justice to observe that this charity is most frequently shamefully misapplied."

In a note upon the above observation it is said: "Had the author of the above reflection been now alive, and seen with what attention and propriety the school is now conducted by the Rev. J. Lloyd, the present worthy curate, he would have changed his opinion."

In the Report of the Commissioners of Inquiry into the State of Education in Wales, ordered by the House of Commons in the year 1846, we find the state of this school, and education in this and the adjoining parishes, commented upon by no means in a favourable manner. It is said that the parish of Llanerfyl contained at that time a population of 1000, consisting of small farmers and farm-labourers ; that the clergy and gentry in the neighbourhood stated that the poor, and class of small farmers, remained in great ignorance ; that education had been and continued to be greatly neglected ; and that the management of the following charity school required careful investigation.

"The Llanerfyl Free School was founded under the will of Priscilla Foster, dated 1728. The income of the charity estate cannot be ascertained, the land being in the occupation of the schoolmaster; but when last valued, fifty years ago, the rent amounted to £32. It was intended for all children belonging to the parish. At the date of the Report of the Charity Commissioners, the number of scholars amounted to 146. Eight children was the largest number found present upon the three occasions when the school was visited for the purpose of my inquiry.

"JOHN JAMES, Assistant."

It is, however, fair to state that these reports are in almost every case considered to be one-sided, not with regard to this school only, but in almost every other case. The master, it said, farmed the charity land himself, being the tenant of the estate as well as the schoolmaster ; and was also churchwarden of the parish, and therefore *ex officio* trustee of the charity. His duties as a farmer appeared to occupy a large portion of his time. It was necessary to make three several visits to his school before he could be found at home. On the first visit he was absent at a fair at Llanfair ; and on the second at a fair at Welshpool; on the third, the school had been dismissed, though it was during school hours, and the master apparently returning from

his farm. (*Reports of the Commissioners of Inquiry into the State of Education in Wales*, part iii, p. 149.)

At present the whole management of this charity is changed, and the school made an elementary school under Government inspection. The rent of the estate at present is £42 per annum; new school buildings have been erected, consisting of a schoolroom, teacher's residence, and out-offices, at a cost of £927. Out of this, the sum of £496 was raised by voluntary subscription and otherwise, and £425 by a loan chargeable upon the charity estate. The rate of interest upon the above loan is not to exceed 5 per cent. per annum. The principal is to be paid up in thirty years from the time of borrowing the money. This is to be done by annual instalments, each instalment amounting to no less than the thirtieth part of the whole amount. At present the school is in operation as a public elementary school, and carried on with fair results. Upon the whole, it is a matter of surprise that so much has been done with such a small endowment—only £300 at first. At present the estate rents at £42 per annum, but most of this is absorbed by the cost of the school buildings, and it will be the case for several years to come, as not more than eight years of the thirty have yet expired. This charge was sanctioned by the Charity Commissioners in the year 1875. They also drew out a new scheme of management, adding fresh Trustees; but this was not completed, owing to want of co-operation, and disagreement among the parishioners on the subject.

A School Board was established in the parish in the year 1871, and a school-room and a residence for the teacher erected in the year 1874, at a place called the Hafod, in a wild and remote part of the parish, at the lower end of Nant yr Eira. The cost of the building was £743, and the school-room will accommodate seventy children. The number on the books at present is about seventy, and the average attendance

last year was thirty-seven. The district is thinly inhabited, and the houses are scattered over a wide area; and many of the children must come a great distance over mountains and along bleak roads, without any shelter, which may well account for the low average during the year. The ratepayers complain of the expense of maintaining the school, as a rate of 8*d.* or 9*d.* in the pound is something rather different to what they were induced to expect when the Board was formed; when it was stated that in no case was it possible for the rate to exceed 3*d.* in the pound.

(To be continued.)

SIR JOHN PRYCE'S WILL.

I AM now enabled to furnish some particulars of an important character relating to the eccentric fifth baronet of Newtown Hall, by way of addition to the account of him already given in *Montgomeryshire Worthies* (*supra* p. 39, *et seq.*). With regard to Sir John's wives, I might have stated that his *first* wife (who died in childbed) was also his first cousin. His *second*, who according to the long inscription on her monument, composed doubtless by her bereaved husband, "wanted nothing but ye advantages of a more refined Education", to render her perfections "illustrious in ye Eyes of all her acquaintance", was, as already stated, the daughter of a farmer at Berriew, Mr. John Morris of Wern Goch. There is a tradition that he met her while taking shelter under a tree during a storm, and taking a fancy to her, married her. Her epitaph refers to the "Cloud of Infamy which had been cast upon her Character by Envious and Malicious persons", and states that her decease "was most unfortunately occasioned by their unjust aspersions." It has been surmised that, owing to her humble origin, Sir John, while she lived, kept his marriage with her a secret; and that it was generally supposed that she was only a concubine, which preyed upon her mind and caused her death of a broken heart, within two years of their marriage. In the announcement in the *Gentleman's Magazine* of Sir John's marriage to his *third* wife, Eleanor, widow of Roger Jones, Esq., of Buckland, the addition is made, as usual in those days, of "with £15,000". At the time of his death, which took place October 28, 1761, Sir John Pryce was on the eve of being married to a *fourth* wife, Miss Martha

Harries of Haverfordwest, his "most dear and most entirely beloved intended wife," to whom he left by his Will nearly all the property he had power to devise, for it seems that he had conveyed the Newtown Hall estates to his son, John Powell Pryce, many years previously. This Will is a very curious document. Wastel Brisco, Esq., Sir John's descendant and the present owner of the Newtown Hall estates, has obligingly supplied me with an office copy extracted from the Carmarthen District Registry. It is dated June 20, 1760, and is as follows :—

"In the Name of the Triune God, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, Amen. I, Sir John Pryce, late of Newtown Hall, in the County of Montgomery, and of Buckland in Brecknock-Shire, but now of the Town and County of Haverfordwest, Baronet, being in Bodily health, and of a sound disposing mind, memory, and understanding, Thanks and praise be rendered to Almighty God for the same, Do make, publish, and declare this present writing as my last Will and Testament. And as to what temporal affairs, both real and personal, God of His Great goodness hath bestowed upon me, I give and dispose thereof in manner following, that is to say :—In the first place it is my request to my Executrix, hereinafter named, that wheresoever I may die my Body may be decently interred in the Cathedral Church of Saint David in Pembroke-shire, according to the usual custom and manner of Choirs, and particularly with the burial service which was composed by the late William Croft, Doctor of Musick. And as to my Castles, Manors, Lordships, Messuages, Mills, lands, tenements, and hereditaments whatsoever, situate, lying, and being in any parish, precinct, Township, or other place whatsoever within the several Counties of Montgomery, Carmarthen, or elsewhere, or anywhere in or upon this Globe of earth and waters; And all my Estate, right, title, equity of redemption, claim, and demand whatsoever, which I now have, or at any time hereafter shall or may have of in to or out of such Castles, Manors, Lordships, messuages, mills, lands, tenements, and hereditaments situate as aforesaid within the said several Counties of Montgomery, Carmarthen, or elsewhere, or anywhere as aforesaid, I hereby devise and bequeath the same unto John Symmons of Llanstinan, in the County of Pembroke, Esquire, and John Harries of Priskilly, in the said County, Esquire, and their heirs, and to the survivor of them,

and his heirs, To have and to hold all and singular the said premises with the appurtenances unto the said John Symmons and John Harries and their heirs, and to the survivor of them and his heirs, To the several uses, intents, and purposes following, That is to say that they, the said John Symmons and John Harries, or their heirs, or the heirs of the survivor of them shall and may with all convenient speed after my decease by Sale of a convenient part of the said premises with the appurtenances, or by Leasing or Mortgaging such convenient part thereof, raise such summ or summs of money (in case my personal Estate shall be insufficient or fall short of) as together with my personal Estate will make up a Sufficient Summ of Money to pay off and discharge all my just debts and funeral Expenses and to be paid and laid out for that purpose; And also to raise the summ of One thousand and six hundred pounds for the portioning my two youngest daughters, that is to say, my daughter Elizabeth Pryce and my daughter Mary Pryce, my said daughter Elizabeth to have One thousand pounds, part of the said One thousand and six hundred pounds, and my said daughter Mary Price to have the remaining sum of Six hundred pounds, part of the One thousand and six hundred pounds aforesaid, to be paid them with interest for the same within twelve months after my decease; And in case it should happen that my said daughter Elizabeth Pryce should die before she attains the age of Twenty one years or day of Marriage, then her thousand pounds portion, being part of the said One thousand and six hundred pounds, shall be taken by and applyed to and to the proper use and behoof of that dearest object of my lawful and best and purest Worldly affections my most dear and most entirely beloved intended Wife, Margaret Harries of the parish of Saint Martin, in the said Town and County of Haverfordwest, Spinster, her heirs and assigns for ever; And in case my other daughter, Mary Pryce, should die before she attains to the day of Marriage, then her Six hundred pounds portion, being the remaining part of the said One thousand and six hundred pounds, shall be taken by and applyed to and to the proper use and behoof of the said Margaret Harries, her heirs and assigns for ever, and to and for no other use intent or purpose whatsoever. And as to the remaining part of all and singular the said premises, which are situated in the said several Counties of Montgomery, Carmarthen, or elsewhere, or anywhere as aforesaid, over and besides what will answer the payment of the several summs of money aforesaid, And the reversion and the equity of redemption of such part as shall or may be

Leased or Mortgaged for the purpose aforesaid To the use and behoof of the said Margaret Harries, her heirs and assigns for ever, and to and for no other use intent or purpose whatsoever, I give and bequeath unto my said most dear and most entirely beloved intended Wife, Margaret Harries aforesaid, All my jewels, plate, goods, cattle, chattels, and personal Estate whatsoever and wheresoever they may be at and after the time of my decease. And whereas by a certain deed or other instrument in writing executed between me and my son John Powell Pryce of Newtown Hall, in the said County of Montgomery, Esquire, I have reserved a moiety or half share of all Mines and Oar whatsoever which hath been or shall or may be had found or discovered in upon or under the Park belonging to Newtown Hall aforesaid and the lands adjoyning thereto, formerly my Estate, but late conveyed by me to him, Now I do hereby give, devise, and bequeath my said moiety or half share of the said Mines and Oar unto the said Margaret Harries, her heirs, executors, administrators, and assigns for ever to be had, held, taken, and received from time to time by the said Margaret Harries and them, in as full, ample, and beneficial manner to all intents and purposes as I myself might have held and enjoyed the same by virtue of such deed or instrument or otherwise howsoever. I give and bequeath unto my dear daughter Elizabeth Pryce her own Mother's picture, painted on an half length canvas in a sitting posture, and mounted in a Gilt Frame. Also my Chased Silver Snuff box that contains the like portraiture painted on a plate of Silver opposite to which is an Emblematick of her death painted on the innermost lid thereof, And also another Chased Silver snuff box containing an Enamelled portraiture of my third Wife, And the Reverend learned and pious Mr. Richards, Rector of Llanfyllin, her God-Father's and her own pictures painted each on quarter length canvas and mounted in Gilt Frames; I give and bequeath unto my dear daughter Mary Pryce her own Mother's and her own portraitures painted each on quarter length canvas and mounted in Gilt Frames. I give and bequeath unto my dear friend and relation Mr. Robert Gosnell of the said parish of Saint Martin, in the Town and County of Haverfordwest aforesaid, the summ of One hundred pounds to buy him a diamond ring in memory of me his obliged kinsman. I give and bequeath unto the Bishop, Dean, and Chapter (for the time being) of the Cathedral Church of Saint David in Pembroke-shire aforesaid and to their successours for ever my fine Church Organ, consisting of a double row of Ivory and Ebony keys, which command

one thousand and four speaking pipes disposed in Eighteen stops some of which are rare, curious, and uncommon (more particularly those that are comprised in the swelling and echoing parts thereof), and ornamented in the fore front with three Towers of Gilt Pipes that are made to utter sound, with two Flates of the same intervening, Angels with Trumpets in their hands reclining from the centre to the two end Towers thereof, and a Cherubin's Head and Wings over the Centre of the said keys and in the Back front thereof with two Flats of dumb Gilt Pipes between a centre and two end Fluted Pilaters with Corinthian Capitals, all well Gilt and finished in a Workmanlike and beautiful manner; a Step-ladder for the more commodiously entering into the Body of the said Organ (as often as necessity may require it), for Cleaning, Tuneing, repairing, or otherwise rectifying the same; A Seat or Cricket for the Organist to sit upon, One Chest of Oak well wainscoated, containing twelve or more folios of Imperial paper ruled for writing Church Musick in them only; one other oaken Chest finished in the like manner, and containing Six Surplices and several Bands for the Choiristers to wear in Devise [divine] Service; All my metal noozles and saucers, Screws, Screw-plates, and all things thereunto belonging for holding large candles of the size and form of Flambeaux, together with the mould for making them, and the box lined with Tin for securing them; All my large brass Snuffers and Snuffer-pans which were use in my Chappel only; All my Brass Tuneing horns, hammers, and other instruments requisite for tuneing my said Organ, which (at the first Erecting thereof) I dedicated, consecrated, and appropriated by Solemn Prayer to Almighty God to be employed solely in his secret [sacred] worship and service in what place soever I should at any time choose to set it up for that use and purpose and for that use and purpose only, together with all my Anthem Books and Service books both in print and manuscript, and all other appurtenances thereunto belonging, which I do therefore by this my last Will and Testament declare to be no part or parcel of my personal Estate nor subject to any debt or debts of mine which now are or hereafter shall or may become due at any time of my life or at the time of my decease; in Trust nevertheless for the sole use of the Choir in the said Cathedral Church of Saint David in Pembroke-shire aforesaid for ever and for no other use intent or purpose whatsoever. I give and bequeath unto my worthy friend Mr. Matthew Phillips, the present Organist of the said Cathedral Church of Saint David, the Summ of Ten Guineas, or (in case of his

death or any other cause of removal from his office and employment in the said Cathedral Church) unto Mr. John Propert if he shall become his Successor therein, the like summ of Ten Guineas; But (in case of his not succeeding the said Mr. Matthew Phillips therein, or of his death or removal afterwards) unto any person who shall happen to be the Organist of the same at the time of my Interrment as aforesaid, the sum of Five Guineas only for performing his part upon the Organ in the Burial Service before mentioned; I give and bequeath unto the Choir-men and Choir-boys or Choiristers who shall perform their respective parts in the said Solemn Service at the time of my Interrment before mentioned the summ of One Guinea each or apiece in consideration thereof. I give and bequeath unto John Prothero of the parish of Saint Mary, in Haverfordwest aforesaid, an Infant, the summ of One hundred pounds, the lawful interest whereof to be paid and laid out in his maintenance and Christian Education (which it is my earnest desire and request he may above all other things receive) within twelve calendar months after my decease until he shall attain to the age of Ten years or thereabouts, and then the said summ of One hundred pounds to be laid out and expended in binding him an apprentice to and in fitting him out for the Sea Service, that he may in due time become useful to the community thereby. And lastly I give and bequeath unto my said most dear and most entirely beloved intended Wife, Margaret Harries aforesaid, her heirs and assigns for ever, All Rents, arrears of rents, debts, claims, and demands whatsoever which I now have or at any time hereafter may or shall have upon any person or persons on account of my said Estates, Right, Title, or Equity of redemption in the several Counties of Montgomery, Carmarthen, or elsewhere or anywhere as aforesaid; and I do nominate and appoint the said Margaret Harries sole Executrix and residuary Legatee of this my last Will and Testament; And furthermore I do hereby revoke, annull, and make void all and every the use and uses, dispositions, or Settlements by me at any time heretofore made, of all or any of my said Castles, Manors, Lordships, messuages, Mills, lands, tenements, and hereditaments whatsoever, lying and being within the several Counties of Montgomery, Carmarthen, and elsewhere or anywhere in or upon this Globe of earth and waters as aforesaid, by virtue of any power or authority in me reserved by any deed or deeds or other Instrument for that purpose; And I do by this my last Will and Testament declare that the several uses hereinbefore by me made, created, and declared of the

said Castles, Manors, Lordships, messuages, Mills, lands, tenements, and hereditaments, are such new uses thereof as I think well of; And I do make, create, and declare on such my revocation of all former uses by me at any time made of the said premisses or any other of them. And I do in the strongest manner possible Establish and confirm this my last Will and Testament or Authentick instrument. All of my own hand writing for that end and purpose. In testimony whereof and of its being my last Will and Testament all of my own hand writing as aforesaid, As also to a Duplicate or other part hereof, I have hereunto put my hand and Seal this Twentieth day of June, in the year of our Lord God, One thousand seven hundred and sixty.

JOⁿ PRYCE.

Signed, sealed, published, and declared by the said Sir John Pryce, as and for his last Will and Testament, in the presence of us who at his request and in his presence, and also in the presence of each other, have severally subscribed our names as Witnesses hereunto. L.S.

Counsel Williams.
Wm. Ayleway, senr.
Edw. Gosnell.
John Ormond.

On the 7th day of December 1761, Administration (with the Will annexed) of the personal Estate of Sir John Pryce, Baronet, deceased were granted to Sir John Powell Pryce the son, Diana Evors, Mary Price, and Elizabeth Pryce, the daughters, and next of kin of the said deceased. Margaret Harries, the sole Executrix therein named, renounced the Probate and Execution thereof.

It appears that at the time of his death Sir John Pryce was comparatively poor, his estates being heavily mortgaged. Margaret Harries was therefore induced to renounce the probate; and in lieu of the £1000 and £600 bequeathed to Elizabeth and Mary Pryce, the latter agreed to accept £500 each, secured to them by a deed of settlement made in 1765. It seems also that Sir John Pryce's desire to be buried in St. David's Cathedral was not carried out, for the Burial Register of the parish of St. Mary's, Haverfordwest, records his burial at the latter place on October 31st, 1761.

With reference to the bequest of the organ to the Cathedral Church of St. David's, the Very Rev. the Dean of St. David's has been kind enough to furnish me with the following extracts from the Acts and Orders of the Chapter of St. David's :—

"24 July 1762.—Ordered that application be made to the Executors of the late Sir John Price deceased for ye Organ bequeathed by him to the Bishop and Chapter of this Cathedral Church."

"26 July 1763.—The said Chantor and Chapter desired Mr. Mathew Phillips, their Organist, to inspect and demand the Organ given them for said Cathedral Church of St. Davids, by the last Will and Testament of the Honourable Sir John Price, Baronet."

"24 July 1765.—The said Chantor and Chapter ordered that Edward Davies, their Chapter Clerk, should acquaint the Executor or Executrix of the last Will and Testament of Sir John Price, Baronet, that they have actually renounced, and do hereby renounce all their right, title, and interest in and to the Organ given by the Will of the said Sir John Price to the said Cathedral, and desired them to dispose of it as they shall think proper."

The organ referred to, and which from its description seems to have been a costly and imposing structure, was doubtless the one which Sir John Pryce had originally presented to Newtown Church, and had been "opened to play with" in July 1731 (*supra*, p. 42). What became of it eventually cannot perhaps now be ascertained. Sir John Pryce's son (Sir John Powell Pryce)'s body was conveyed from the Fleet prison where he died, July 4, 1776, to Newtown and buried there, but it was about *six weeks* after his death. His wife also spent many of her last years in the Fleet. She had apparently been a good and faithful companion to him, but he had rewarded her constancy by bequeathing to her *one shilling!*[1] She lived until 1805.

Their son, Sir Edward Manley Pryce, was an officer in the Guards, who squandered a good deal and was fleeced by bill-brokers of the remnant left to him of this

[1] *Ex inf.*, Mr. E. R. Morris.

once fine estate. He died miserably poor (*supra*, p. 45) on October 28, (not June as there stated) 1791, in a field at Pangbourne, where also he was buried.

The history of the Newtown Hall estate and the Pryce family is indeed quite a romance. For most of the following particulars I am indebted to Mr. E. R. Morris, and they are gathered from original documents in the Record Office, and elsewhere. At one time or other the Pryces had large estates in Breconshire, Carmarthen, Berkshire, Wiltshire, Cheshire, Oxford, and Flint, as well as Montgomeryshire—the present Newtown Hall estate being a mere nothing compared to its former extent—but in the course of the eighteenth century its successive owners squandered this fine property; the park fencing was broken down; the deer (ninety-nine in number) sold; and the Newtown estate, not in settlement, was sold under a Decree of the Court of Chancery, and bought (with the exception of two lots, the purchasers of these accepting the title) by the Mortgagee (the Marquis of Buckingham) as "no Title could be made to it", who resold it. After paying himself, the balance, amounting to £2890, was in 1782 paid into Court, where it remained for more than sixty years, until with accumulated dividends it amounted to £21,000. The late Rev. George Arthur Evors, of Newtown Hall (grandson in the female line of Sir John Pryce), and the creditors of Sir John Powell Pryce, Dame Elizabeth Pryce, and Sir Edward Manley Pryce, divided this fund between them; but Mr. Evors having bought up all the claims with one or two exceptions, and those having failed to prove to the satisfaction of the Master, the whole virtually vested in him and his brother-in-law, Mr. Hobday Lade. The latter had helped Mr. Evors with money in his earlier days, he promising to leave all his property to him (Mr. Lade). Mr. Evors, in September 1844, while on a visit at the house of Mr. Lade's son, died from an over-dose of laudanum. He had with him at the time, it appears, £8000 in cash, which Mr. Lade's housekeeper (who it subsequently

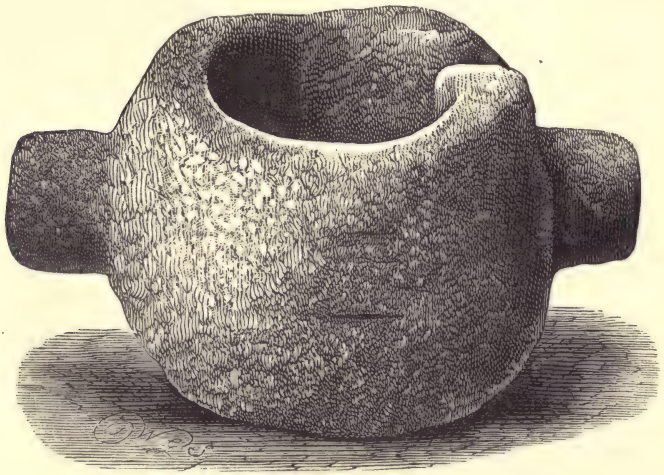
turned out was also his wife) swore at a subsequent trial she saw Mr. Evors give to Mr. Lade, and whose testimony was accepted by the Court. When Mr. Evors's Will was opened, it was discovered that he had devised his estates not to Mr. Lade, but to another nephew, the late Arthur Brisco, Esq. The latter died a bachelor and intestate in the lifetime of his father the late Wastel Brisco, Esq., who therefore succeeded to the estate. He died April 18th, 1878, and thereupon his second son, the present owner, Wastel Brisco, Esq., of Southcote, near Reading, inherited the property.

R. WILLIAMS.

TWO STONE VESSELS OF UNCERTAIN PERIOD.

THERE have been two stone vessels presented to the Powys-land Museum, about which there has been considerable discussion, and some doubts expressed as to their possible period.

I.



STONE VESSEL FOUND AT BERTHDDU, LLANDINAM.
One-third real size.

The above wood-cut represents one of them, one-third its real size. It is a circular stone vessel, with a protuberance on either side like a trunnion of a piece of ordnance. It is 6 inches in diameter outside, and $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches deep. The cavity is round, being $3\frac{3}{4}$ inches wide, and $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches deep, and is angular, and not rounded at the bottom, which is flat. The trunnion-like protuberances project

$1\frac{1}{4}$ inches, and are $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches thick. The stone of which it is composed is millstone grit. The vessel weighs $9\frac{3}{4}$ lbs. It was found at a spot 400 yards north-east of Berthddu farm-house, in the parish of Llandinam, in Montgomeryshire, and not very far from Caersws, a Roman station, in a bog, which was covered with alder and other wood, "which was reclaimed and cultivated, 14 inches in the ground, under the turbary in the clay." In close propinquity to the stone vessel was found at the same time a large lump of lead, weighing about fifty-six pounds, and in form something like a fifty-six-pound weight, but of rather irregular shape. It was at the base about five inches square, and between six and seven inches high. When found it had on one side three indentations thus | | | . The top part seems cut off from a longer piece, and has chisel marks upon it. About 500 yards south-west of the Berthddu house, in a field called "Cae Howel", about twelve inches from the surface, was also found the lower part of a quern or handmill.

Mr. H. Syer Cuming, being consulted, states that this stone vessel "belongs to a class of objects not unfrequently found in Ireland and Scotland, and in the Scottish Isles, but which are rarely met with in South Britain. They are generally wrought out of pot-stone, but occasionally of harder material. These vessels were formerly considered drinking cups, but some of the more shallow examples have of late been regarded as lamps." He adds "I have always felt their weight and thickness militated in some degree against their being for potations, but the trunnion handles of your specimen look as if they were designed to lift the vessel. I have seen some of these cups or bowls which I firmly believe have been employed as *knocking-troughs*, with stone or hard wooden mullers. Though your specimen was found near a Roman station, I should assign its origin to pre-Roman times, and to an age when the Ordovices were a free people. As to its actual age I have nothing

to guide me but its form, set forth in the wood-cut, and there is nothing in it that suggests a modern date."

Mr. Albert Hartshorne, F.S.A., says, "Without seeing the actual thing, or knowing the quality of the stone, I should imagine the object to be a quern, and that the side trunnions worked in two other stones, partly for giving facility to the grinding operation which the swinging motion would contribute, and partly to enable the quern to be more easily turned over and emptied into an earthen dish or platter. I suppose the opening on the sinister side of the rim to be a breakage and not a lip [this is so]. It is conceivable that the emptying of a heavy stone receptacle may involve the risk of breaking any earthenware vessel which should receive its contents, though, of course, a skin might have been the receiver."

Mr. Worthington G. Smith, who engraved it, says, "on the front you will see two horizontal depressions, which seem to me like places where blades have been sharpened. The form of the thing, except the trunnions, is just like some of the Mexican mortars, some old and some modern. In a book, *Primitive Industry*, by Charles C. Abbott, Salem, Massachusetts, there are four stone vessels engraved, two of which have trunnions. They, at any rate, show that stone vessels were made in ancient times with trunnions." Mr. W. G. Smith showed it to Dr. John Evans, F.S.A., who did not like the look of it, and seemed to think it looked like a model of a mortar (ordnance). Mr. W. G. Smith, also, on 4th April 1883, exhibited it at a meeting of the British Archæological Association, when very few members would venture an opinion, although several thought it old, and some that it was possibly Roman. Mr. Brock said it reminded him of the objects used in the time of the plague, when similar stones were placed outside towns for the reception of money, after the vessels were filled with vinegar; but this idea would not hold good, as the stone is millstone grit and porous. One member thought that

it was a socket for something, rather than a mortar, having regard to the fact that the depression or cavity was angular rather than round at the bottom. Mr. Cecil Brent said a similar object was exhibited there about four years ago, and set down as a forgery, or a modern model, or modern production of some sort. In fact, Mr. Brent seemed almost sure it was the identical object that some one exhibited before! This was a wild assertion, and cannot be correct, because it was never out of the possession of the finder until he presented it to the Powys-land Museum.

Some workmen who have seen it thought it might be a pattern for a mould, and one thought it not unlike part of a threshing machine. Mould-patterns are usually made with wood. Stone would be an expensive material for such a purpose.

Mr. Joseph Anderson, of Edinburgh, the Curator of the Museum of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland, on seeing the wood-cut, said he did not remember having seen anything precisely like this two-handled cup, but they had a large number of single-handled cups, and cups without handles, which are sometimes rudely made, at other times rather tastefully finished. As a rule they may belong to the Iron Age.

Mr. A. W. Franks on inspecting this stone vessel was of opinion it was of no great antiquity.

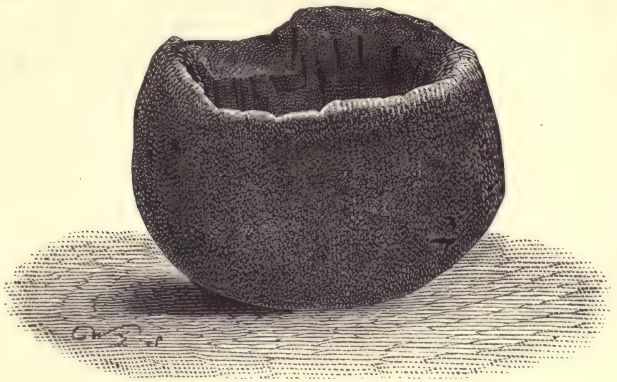
II.

The other vessel, of which there is a wood-cut on the next page, is a semi-spherical stone with a cavity wrought out of it, making it apparently a stone cup. It is $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches high, and 6 inches in diameter. The cavity is $3\frac{3}{4}$ inches broad, and 3 inches deep, cut rather irregularly. It weighs four pounds.

It was found by Mr. John Davies of the Court House Inn, Churchstoke, about ten years ago, in the Cross Likey brook. That brook is about half-a-mile from Churchstoke, on the Bishop's Castle road, and just on

the border of the county of Montgomery. It runs through the Railhouse farm, which is the property of Mr. John Morris, and is a short distance from Todleth Hill.[1]

A similar stone vessel is figured in vol. xxvi, *Archæological Journal*, p. 288. It was exhibited by Miss M. Conway Griffiths, of Carregllwyd, Anglesea, and is described as a diminutive stone cup, supposed to be Early British, found near Carregllwyd. The dimensions were—diameter nearly 4 inches ; diameter of the the bowl, $2\frac{3}{4}$; in height $1\frac{3}{4}$ inches. This vessel, the intention of which is uncertain, was nearly hemi-



STONE VESSEL FOUND AT CHURCHSTOKE.
One-third real size.

spherical, the bottom being brought to a round shape with considerable care. It is added that in the British Museum there is a similar little cup of somewhat smaller size, wrought out of a flint. It was found in the Thames, near Battersea.

In Mr. W. O. Stanley's excavations at the Cyttiau, in

[1] In Lewis's *Topographical Dictionary, sub nom.* Churchstoke, it says :—" On Churchstoke Hill are vestiges of a Roman camp, and on the declivity called Todleth are the remains of old walls, and a piece of water called the Church Pool, probably belonging to some religious house, near the site of which, according to an absurd popular tradition, the church was originally to have been erected" ; but we have found no further account of Todleth.

Holyhead Island, several small cups have been found, that may have been destined for like purposes as that found on Miss Griffiths' estate. It is possible that, as has been sometimes imagined, stone vessels of this description were used as lamps.

In the *Proceedings of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland* (1877), vol. xi, p. 82, two cups or vessels of sandstone are figured. The first is described as a stone cup or vessel of red sandstone, six inches in diameter. The outside of this vessel is partly the natural surface of the boulder from which it was made; the sides, however, have been picked with a tool to make them straighter than the natural shape of the boulder, and the rim is bevelled and sloped away towards the outside. The cavity, which still bears the marks of pecking, apparently by a metal tool, by which it has been hollowed out, is $3\frac{1}{8}$ inches in diameter, and $1\frac{3}{4}$ deep, the sides of the vessel being about an inch thick in the upper part. The second vessel there figured, for the sake of comparison, was found in the Broch of Bowermadden, Caithness. It is an oval cup of red sandstone, 7 inches in length, and 5 inches in width, and 4 inches deep. It bears marks of fire, and has been split lengthwise. If wider than deep it is rather a bowl than a cup, being thus distinguished from the latter, which is rather deep than wide.

This stone vessel, found at Churchstoke, Mr. Worthington Smith thinks is a comparatively modern thing, picked out with small metal picks; and Mr. Franks, on seeing it, thought it was of no great antiquity.

On the whole we think it safer to suspend passing judgment upon the antiquity of these two stone objects.

M. C. J.

EARLY MONTGOMERYSHIRE WILLS.

NOTES.

Vol. I.—Copies of Wills. 1565 to 1568.

At St. Asaph Registry.

			FOL.
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MEMO.—There are very few *originals* of Wills at St. Asaph prior to 1660.

These three, and other volumes, are contemporary copies and in capital preservation and clearly written.

EXTRACTS FROM WILLS.

At St. Asaph Registry.

15 June 1566 (?). Maurice ap Ieu'n, lately of Guilsfield. Fol. 41.
To be buried at parish church of Guilfield. Land to be divided between her two eldest sons. "My daughter" and to her husband, Ieu'n ap [Rees (?)]; "my wife Gwen v. David;" "Elin, my daughter." Appoints Dd. ap Moris ap Dd. and Lewis ap Dd. of Llandysilio overseers. Very long will. Many names.

3 Oct. 1572. Lewis ap Ieu'n Goch de Pola. Fol. 218.
To be buried at Poole. Leaves to son Richard all lands bought from Hugh ap John ap Owen in the Townshippe and field of Disserth (?), co. Montgomery. "Jane, my younger daughter;" "Anne, my daughter;" "Joice, my daughter;" "Reynalde, my eldest sonne;" "John ap Ieu'n, my brother."
Executors.—Reinald, my son, and Griffith Madoc.
Overseers.—Meredith ap Owen and John ap Ieu'n (brother).
Witnesses.—Mer. ap Owen, John ap Ieu'n Goch, John ap Griff. Richard ap Reinald.—Proved 11 May 1574.

28 July 1573. Evan ap Meredith de Meifot. Fol. 140.
To be buried at Meifot. To "Lewis ap Ieu'n, my son," 58 acres in the townshippe of Mayne, co. Montgomery; also 8 mares. "David ap Owen ap John of Peniarthe" to

hold the lands mortgaged to him till mortgage (£5) paid off. Ditto, David ap John ap David, 30*s*.

Executors.—Lowrie v. John Myrredded, wife, and "Joes d. Ieu'n," "Marg. v. Ieu'n," and Maude, ux. Ieu'n, my daughter.

Overseers.—Humph. ap Owen, Thomas ap Owen, Ieu'n ap Owen.

Witnesses.—"Lewis Moris, clerke;" "Ieu'n ap Owen ap Jno.," Caddr. ap Griff., John ap R. ap John, Arthur ap Owen, Humph. ap Thomas, and others.—Proved 7 Aug. 1573.

Extracts from Wills.

At Bangor Registry.

1635. Richards ap Thomas ap Jenkin of Maesmawr, parish Llanddinam, co. Mont.

Buried in parish church of Llanddinam. Goods, chattels, and all his property to his wife Margaret and his only son David equally.

Witnesses.—Lewis Turner, John Turner, Evan ap Owen, Griffith Thomas.

(Made 1 July 1634.) John Lewis of parish of Llanguneke, co. Mont.

To be buried in parish church of Llangurcke. "Evan John Lewis, my eldest son;" "David ap John Lewis, my second son;" "Elizabeth ap John, my daughter;" "Ellen, the daughter of Evan John Lewis, my grandchild;" etc., etc.

1635. Jenkin Owen, Carno, co. Montgomery, yeoman.

(20 Sept.) John Lewes of Treveglwys, co. Mont.

(Made Jan. 1634.) Robert ap John Griffith of Myfod. Parish of Llanrhaiadr.

1637. Evan Rees of Carneth, parish Llanddinam, co. Mont.

(31 May 1636.) Maurice ap Ieu'n ap John, parish Llanddinam, co. Mont.

Buried at parish church Llanddinam. "My sonne, Jenkin Moris;" "my son, Thomas Moris;" "my daughters Bridget Moris and Jane Moris;" Margaret, daughter of Caddwallr., my wife (sole executor).

Overseers.—Wythen Johores and Miller (?) Johnes.

Witnesses.—Wythen Jones (fine signature), Richd. ap Howell, Richard Thomas.

Memo.—Jenkin Moris is called, in a bond attached, "yom. miles."

1638. 1. (20 Jan. 1637.) Morgan Rees, parish Llanidloes.

2. (27 Jan. 1636.) Margaret, ux. John of Llanidloes, widow, relict, and late wife of David Lloyd ap Evan, late of Llanidloes, buried in Llanidloes parish church. Appoints Edward Evans of Clochvaen, parish Llanreriche, co. Mont. gent., sole executor, and bequeaths everything to him. "Gwen, daughter of Rees, wife of Evan."

Witnesses.—"William ap Evan ap Jenkin;" "Lowrye Moris, vid.;" "Thomas Hardinge;" "Catherine, ux. Rees;" "Margaret Miles."

3. (17 Jan. 1637.) Ellen Lewis of parish of Trefeglwys, co. Mont. "My god-son Robert, the son of Robert Llewelyn;" "my god-daughter Jane Meredith, daughter of Richard Meredith;" "my god-son Thomas Webster, son of John Webster;" "John Lewis, my late husband;" "Ellen Lewis, his mother."

1641. 4. (8 Dec. 1641.) Richard Bidle of Llanidloes.

5. (15 July 1636.) James Morris, Llanddinam. Proved by Martha Moris als. Lloyd, "vid".

6. (Sept. 1639.) Jean Watts of Llanddinam, spinster.

7. (1640.) John Thomas, Llanddinam.

8. (27 Mar. 1640.) David Thomas, Carno.

9. (Dec. 1641.) George Eaton, Llanddinam.

10. (1640.) Richard Griffith of Llanervorda, parish Llanwnog, gent.

Buried in Llanwnog Church. Poor of Llanwnog, 40*s.* "Jane v. Griffith, my wedded wife;" "my lands and tenements;" "my brother and heyre, Meredith Griffith" (executor); "my nephew Edward ap Edward of Llanddinam;" "Evan Meredith, supposed son unto Meredith Griffith my brother."

Witnesses.—Evan Lloyd, Thomas Phillips, Morris ap Owen, Oliver Rees.

1641. 11. (11 Jan. 1600.) Edward Lewis, parish of Trefeglwys.

"Oldest son Roger Edwards;" "son Lewis Edwards;" "daughter Margaret;" "Ellen Evan, his granddaughter;" "Richard Roger, my grandchild;" "wife Ellen;" "oldest son, Roger Edwards, executor."

12. Evan Lewis, Llanwnog, yeoman.

"Son, David Lewis;" "son Lewis;" "daughter Katheringe;" "Thomas Owen, my servant man;" "Elizabeth, my servant, my mayd." After legacies, all to his wife.

Overseers.—"Evan ap Evan, David Morgan, and Richard Evan, all of the parish of Llanidloes."

The mark "E" of Evan Lewis.

Witnesses.—Evan Lloyd, Evan ap Hugh, Lewis ap Evan, John Moris.

13. (4 Nov. 1640.) Roger Pierce of Carno, yeoman.
14. (20 Jan. 1640.) Joannes Lloyd, late of Berth Lloyd, parish Llanidloes, spinster.

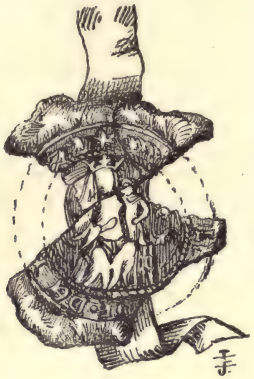
"My mother, Mrs. Dorothy Lloyd;" "my three brothers, James, ... (?), and John Lloyd;" "my sister Mrs. Martha Moris" (*vide* Will No. 5); "my brother Edward Lloyd."

Witnesses.—Bridget Evans, Mrs. Martha Moris.

H. L. Squires.

RICHARD MASON, ABBOT OF VALLE CRUCIS

1448.



In the fine collection of deeds belonging to Egerton Leigh, Esquire, of the West Hall, High Leigh, Cheshire, the late High Sheriff of that county, which he has recently placed in my hands for examination, is a receipt, which supplies an addition to the meagre list of Abbots of Valle Crucis, and so will be of interest to the members of the Powys-Land Club. It is written on a narrow strip of parchment, about 11½ inches long by 1¼ inches wide, and is as follows :—

"Nouerint uniu'si p' p'sentes nos Ricardum mason Abbatem de monasterio S'c'e marie de valle crucis recipisse et habuisse de d'no galfrido Werburton milite quinque | marcas st'lingor' bene & legalis monete anglie, de termino Natiuitatis s'c'i Joh'is Baptisti ultimo p'terit', de quib' qui'que marc' fateor me fore pacatum dictumq' | Galfridu' heredes & executores suos inde esse quiet' p' p'sentes Sigilo meo Signat'. Data die lune proximo post ffestu' sup'adict'm Anno r.r. Henrici [sexti post con] | quest'm Anglie vicesimo sexto." (The words in brackets have been cut away, but the writing is clearly that of Henry the Sixth.)

Translation.

"Be it known to all by these presents that I, Richard Mason, Abbot of the Monastery of St. Mary of Valle Crucis, have

received and had of Sir Geoffrey Werburton, knight, five marcs sterling of good and lawful money of England, at the term of the Nativity of St. John the Baptist [June 24] last past, of which five marcs I acknowledge myself to be satisfied, and the said Geoffrey, his heirs or executors, to be thence freed by these presents, sealed with my seal. Given the Monday next after the feast above said, in the 26th year of King Henry the Sixth [1448]."

The small red seal is unfortunately very much broken, but it is clearly a small seated figure of the Virgin and Child. An illustration of it, nearly twice the size of the original, is given above.

Sir Geoffrey Werburton, knt., mentioned in the above deed, was the second son of Peter de Werburton, of Budworth, co. Chester, and heir to his brother Piers Werburton, who died without issue about 1429. He married Ellen, daughter of John Bruyn, Esq., and was knighted in or before 1431. His name occurs frequently on the Cheshire Recognizance Rolls, and he appears to have been much associated with Welsh affairs. In 1442 he is said to have been imprisoned in Chester Castle, charged with making an illegal distress in Merionethshire, but was liberated on bail. He made his will on September 1st, 1448, and desired to be buried in the Abbey of Norton, "between the high chancel and the Chapel of the Blessed Mary."

J. P. Earwaker, M.A., F.S.A.

Pensarn, Abergele.

WALTER DAVIES' CORRESPONDENCE.

(*Continued from p.* 192.)

LETTER X.—*Add. MSS.* 15,031.

Rhag. 12ed, 1790.

Y CAREDIG FŒCENAS,—Derbyniais eich llythyr Rhag. 7fed, a pharotoais y Traethawd yn orau ag y medrwn heb ei ail ysgrifennu, gan symmud attaliadau, newid llythyrenau a geiriau; a lle gwelwch feiau dymunaf ichwi eu diwygio, etc., heb anfon attaf fel y dywedasoch, canys gwn nad ydych y fath faban yn yr Iaith Gymraeg ag y bydd raid ichwi wneuthur felly. Yn tudalen 27, llin. 1, mae'r gair "Ffiaiddied" wedi ei nodi odditano, 'rwyfi 'n rhy gibddall i ganfod y bai—ei ystyr ydyw hyn yn y Saesoneg "*Let the base name of the treacherous Arviargus be an abomination in the sight of Britons.*" Tudal. 41, "Simmant" a nodir nis gwn I ba air amgennach am *mortar;* page 41, "*the judges being made independent,*" os byddwch mor weddol ai gyfleu os gwelwch hynny yn orau. Nodais pob enw priodol dynion a lleoedd, fel y bydde'n llythrennau Ittalaidd yn yr Argraph; lle mae geiriau yn rhy agos i Sais ganfod y gwahaniad, rhoddais derfyn fel hyn | .

Mi argrephais 100 o gyhoeddiadau ddydd Gwener diweddaf (gwelwch gynllun o honynt). Gyrrais rai i Dywyn Meirionydd, i Llanelwy, Llangollen, Bala, ag amryw o fannau eraill. Mae T. Jones, y Cyllidydd, yn anfon i bapur Caerlleon yr wythnos hon. Mi roddais y pris at yr amcan, a henw'r un argraphwr a'r hwn a wnaeth D. Gwilym. Nis gwn I pa beth a gai wneud o iawn i Ywain Myfyr am ei anfeidrol gymmwynasau a'i haelioni tuag at ddieithryn anghydnabyddus o ran golwg, ond y mae hynny o wybodaeth y sydd ynof yn fy rhwymo i fod (tra bo yspryd a chnawd yn gyssylltiedig) yn ddidwyll ddiragrith at ei wasanaeth, yn ol yr egwan allu sydd gennyf. 'Rwy'n bwriadu anfon at D. Ddû a T. o'r Nant am iddynt gasclu ychydig o enwau at y Traethawd, canys mi wnawn ym fodloni iddynt hwythau y cyfryw gymmwynas. Dymunwn wybod amcan pa gan gynted y bydd yn barod, a pha fath o Ragymadrodd a fydd

orau. Oni ddylai fo gael ei gyflwyno at y Gymdeithas? Mae trigolion y fro oddiamgylch Mechain a Myllin yn egr iawn am dano, mae genni gryn nifer o enwau yn barod. Aflwyddianus a fum erioed hyd yma ar Mr. Owen am fy ngwneud yn Gyllidydd. Pur annodd gan wyr o uchel swyddau gymmeryd y drafferth o anfon hanner gair at eu his-raddolion, onide ni buasai yr holl ffwdan i Mr. Cholmondeley ddanfon ichwi atteb cwtta. Mae'n rhaid immi naill ai erfyn ar wr bonheddig arall am y gymmwynas, neu roddi fynnu 'r yspryd.

Hyn oddiwrth eich rhwymediccaf wasanaethwr (nid heb achos), GWALLTER MECHAIN.

Rhag. 16eg, 1790.

Byddwch mor fwyn ag anfon y llythyrau, un i Mr. Edward Jones, a'r llall i Mr. Wm. Owen.

Mr. Owen Jones,
148, Upper Thames Street, London.

TRANSLATION.—LETTER X.

Dec. 12, 1790.

GENEROUS MŒCENAS,—I received your letter on Dec. 7th, and I prepared the Essay as best I could—removing stops, altering letters and words. Where you may observe the same still faulty, there, I beg you to correct without consulting me, as you are not an infant in the language. In page 27, line 1, there is the word "Ffiaiddied" underlined. I am too dull to see the fault in it, the meaning in English is this,—"Let the base name of Arviargus be an abomination in the sight of the Britons." At page 41, "simmant" is underlined; I do not know of any other word that will stand for "mortar." Page 41, "The judges being made independent",—be so kind as to set this out better, if you think it necessary. I have underlined all proper names to be in Italics in the type. Where words are very close I have put this mark | , that an Englishman may know where the separation should be.

I had 100 copies printed on Friday last, of which I send you a specimen. I have sent some to Towyn, Meirionydd, St. Asaph, Llangollen, Bala, and other places. T. Jones, the Excise Officer, is writing to the Chester paper this week. I have set the price at a venture, and also the name of the printer—the same who printed D. ap Gwilym. I do not know how to requite Ywain Myfyr for his innumerable favours and liberality towards a stranger, whom he has never seen. What I have received binds me body and mind to serve you in every

way faithfully to the very utmost of my abilities. I intend writing to D. Ddû and T. Nant, requesting them to get some names for the Essay, and I will repay them their favour. I should like to know how soon I may expect it to be ready, and also what sort of an Introduction would be desirable. Ought I not to inscribe it to the Society? The people of this district of Mechain and Myllin are very eager to see it out, and I have a goodly number of names already for it. I have been altogether unsuccessful with Mr. Owen to get the appointment in the Excise. Men of his position are very loath to take the trouble of sending half a word to those who are not on their level, as seen by Mr. Cholmondeley's curt reply to yours. I have either to ask another gentleman to do me the favour or give up the intention.

This from your bounden servant (not without cause),

Dec. 16th, 1790. GWALLTER MECHAIN.

Please to send these letters on to Mr. Edward Jones, and Mr. Wm. Owen.

Mr. Owen Jones.

LETTER XI.—*Add. MSS.* 15,030.

Croes Oswallt, Ion. 11eg, 1791.

HYNAWS GYMRO,—Cefais gyfleusdra (yr hyn oedd arnaf yn ddirfawr eisiau) i 'sgrifennu attoch. 'Roeddwn braidd yn anesmwyth rhag ofn na ddigwyddodd y Traethawd gael ei gyflwyno yn ddiogel i ben ei yrfa, os na ddaeth, mae genyf nôd derbyniad oddi dan law ysgrifenydd Mr. Lawrence, Amwythig, am y Traethawd, ag hefyd am Geinach a anfonwyd o'r blaen; ond gan obeithio na bydd achos i ymofyn am danynt ymhellach, af ymlaen i draethu fy meddwl; fel y chwenychwn wybod pa gan gynted yr Argrephir y Traethawd, a dymunwn nad elir yn rhy bell cyn imi anfon ychydig o sylwadau yn rhagor ar Ryddid Crefydd, canys cymaint o groes ddadleu sy'n ei gylch; fel ag y chwenychwn egluro amryw byngciau; dymunaf glywed gair oddiwrthych ar fyrr ynghylch hynny. 'Rwy'n bwriadu anfon ychwanegiad gyda 'sgrifeniadau Mr. Edward Jones ar fyrr.

Mae'r llyfrau wedi eu cyhoeddi i fod o bris deuswllt, ag felly rhag y gwel y wlad ei fod yn rhy ddrud, gwell immi fyned i'r draul o'i rwymo. Gwelsoch bapur Caerlleon ond odid Rhag. 24, 1790. Byddai orau na argraphir dim o hono cyn immi gyflawn sefydlu cynnwysiad y pennodau a phob peth arall, fel y bo yn lled weddol i ymddangos i'r byd. Mae genyf ynghylch 200 o enwau heb fyned neppell o Gymdogaeth

Llanfyllin a Chroes Oswallt; ni bydd orau rhoi'r enwau yn y llyfr, na'r dangoseg sy' ynddo yn awr, rhag ei chwyddo yn ormod o faintiolaeth, gwell gadael lle i bethau mwy buddiol; anfonaf "The Judges' Independency" yr un pryd. Mi 'wyf mewn fferdod cnawd ond gwresogrwydd yspryd.

Mr. Owen Jones. Yr eiddoch, G. MECHAIN.

TRANSLATION.—LETTER XI.

Oswestry, Jan. 11, 1791.

GENEROUS CYMRO,—I had an opportunity, which I much desired, to write you. I was rather uneasy lest the Essay should not reach you safe. If not, I have a receipt note under the hands of the clerk, Mr. Lawrence of Shrewsbury, for the parcel, as also for the hare which I sent. But as I expect they are received I proceed. I wish to know how soon the printing will be done; and if there be time to insert a few additional remarks on Religion and Liberty, upon which there is much discussion. I intend to send these additions with Mr. Edward Jones's manuscripts very shortly.

I have announced the price of the book to be two shillings, but lest the country see this too much, I think I had better go to the expense of binding. Perhaps it would be better to settle the contents of the chapters, and every detail, before commencing the printing. You have, perchance, seen the Chester paper of Dec. 24th, 1791.

I have now 200 names without going far out of the vicinity of Llanfyllin and Oswestry. The names of the subscribers, and the table of contents, had perhaps better be omitted, to avoid swelling its size, and that I may insert other matter of greater importance. I will send the "Judges' Independency" the same time. I write this suffering from the severe cold as to the body, but as to spirit in great warmth.

Mr. Owen Jones. Yours, G. MECHAIN.

LETTER XII.—*Add. MSS.* 15,024.

MIC YWAIN,—Bychan y gwyr y cyllidydd, ac na wnewch mo hono fe yn gydnabyddus imi farchogaeth wrth ei ysgil i Lundain; na choeliwch y ffiloreg y mae fe 'n ei draethu ynghylch E. Môn, mae genyf ddirfawr barch i'w gallineb ac yn enwedig i gywrainrwydd Gwil: Owain, a hynawsedd y Bardd Cloff. Nid af fi i ddweyd nemawr am Owain Myfyr rhag ddigwydd

tyb fod Mechain o'r un anian a chrocodil Afon Nilus. Mae yn fy moddio i yn fwy nag a goeliai hayach o ddyn gwrthnysig, fod yr hen Frythoneg mewn cymmaint cymmeriad yn y brif ddinas a bod ynthi feirniaid na welant yn drapherth na thraul ei choleddu. Mae Mechain bron a rhoi ynghadw y bwriad i fyned yn . . . . . colynaidd tan oruchwyliaeth pwll diwaelod (locust . . . . . bottomless pit.) Ond pa fodd y gwnair ef yn *Offeiriad?* A ysgrifenir erfyniad at yr Esgob? Mae hwnnw yn y Senedd yn awr. Fe ddaw y Traethawd yn ei ol cyn bo hir. Mae Warrington gennyf. Nid wyf fi yn canfod fawr yn erfyniad y Cymry at H. VIII; heblaw hynny y mae wedi ei gyfieithu yn rhy llythyrenol. O! er mwyn daioni, bu agos immi anghofio neges. Mae un o etifeddion Timon o Athens, gan hyderu y bydd iddo beri i Shergold fenthycio arian i dalu iddo, er ennill, wedi prynu y rhifau 14537, 14538, 24206 yn y goelbren dywyll Wyddelig ddiweddaf ac fe a gafodd ryw dri gair yn ol cyffelyb i hyn, "blank". Ac yr oedd yn ammodol rhyngtho a rhoddwr yr aur fod iddo gael 3 o rifau o'r goelbren —hûd Seisnig am yr arian, ac fe a dderbyniodd rhifyn 34966, 34967, 34968, ac mae fe yn petruso gan ofni na cheiff degwch yn y tyniad, o ddiffyg bod un i'w gwilio. Mi a addewais anfon i Lundain ar yr achos, canys yr wyf finnau yn disgwyl i un o'r rhifau ddigwydd yn llwyddianus, gan hynny mewn difrifwch (ar ddull cellwair) yr wyf fi yn dymuno os oes gennych le i ammau twyll, a chennych rhyw achos arall i fyned i blith yr hudolion, deliwch sulw ar y rhifau uchod. Dymunwn wybod am y testuuau canlynol, a erchir y Traethawd ar Lywodraeth a defodau y Brythaniaid, yn rhywbeth ar ddull Hanes (History) Bywyd a Marwolaeth y Tywysogion. Nid ydyw ansawdd y Testun yn treiddio i'm penglog i. Mi wn amcan pa beth yw Gwirionedd, ond nis gwn i pa ddull ar Farddoniaeth a dderbynir; rwyf yn ofni na dderbynir Cywydd, neu Awdl gorchestol ar yr un mesur trwyddo gyda chymaint o barch a Rhigwm (chwedl E. Môn), a fydd ar y pedwar mesur a'r hugain. A edrychir ddim ar Gymmeriad neu brif odliad trwy'r gwaith?

Cefais lythyr yn ddiweddar oddiwrth Mr. Ed. Jones y Telyniwr yr oedd e'n crybwyll fod T. Jones (y gwr yrwy'n guddiedig yngodrau ei wisg) ar fedr cyhoeddi ail argraphiad o Rammadeg Sion Rhydderch, a bu Mr. Jones yn siarad ar yr un achos a Mr. Eddowes Argraphydd o'r Amwythig, yn ei ddychweliad o Lundain; yr oedd hwnnw yn foddlon i'r swydd os gwnawn i ddiwygio'r llyfr a'r wasg. Nis gwn i pa beth y mae T. Jones y Cyllidydd yn ei feddwl, mae'r fath orchwyl a hwnnw yn gofyn dyn o ddealldwriaeth ehang mewn iaith a

chynghanedd i'w wneuthur yn fwy trefnus nag y gwnaethpwyd gan Sion Rhydderch; ac heblaw hynny, nid wyf fi'n ammau nad oes cryn ddarn o Rammadeg i fod yn Sillafydd D. Ddû, os daw allan—erchaf eich barn ar fwriad fy nghyfaill, na soniwch wrtho air am danaf fi amgen nag y bo achos ryw ffordd arall; peth rhyfedd genyf na soniasai fe rywfaint wrthyf am ei fwriad i fyned yn gyhoeddwr.

Codded na fydded neu fâr—am anfon,
Mae ynfyd fy narpar,
Hir rigwm heb air hygar,
Yn nghil annerchiad fy nghâr.

Y fi wyf, yr eiddoch mewn difrifwch,

Chwefror tyner, G. Mechain.
Yr wythfed Osber, 1791.

Translation.—Letter XII.

Dear Ywain,—Little does the Exciseman know that I am taking a ride behind him[1] to London. Do not let him know, neither give credence to the story he tells you about *E. Môn.* I have every respect for his good sense, and the ingenuity of Gwil. Owain, and for the generous nature of the Bardd Cloff. I am so very pleased that the ancient British tongue is held in such repute in the metropolis—few things please me more—and that there are persons there who think nothing too much to do to encourage it.

Mechain has almost given up all thoughts of going . . . . . But, now, how is he to be made a Parson? Would a letter of request have any effect with the Bishop? He is in Parliament just now. The Essay will be returned before very long. I have *Warrington.* I don't see much in the Petition of the Welsh to H. VIII; and its translation is too literal and stiff. Lest I should forget, I will here state a request which has been asked me. One of the descendants of Timon of Athens has bought three tickets from one Shergold, Nos. 14,537, 14,538, 24,206, in the Irish lottery. When he asked for information as to the "draw", he had only the reply, "blank", returned as answer. It was arranged afterwards that he should have three English lottery tickets in their stead, which he has had, 34,966, 34,967, 34,968, but he is afraid he shall not have fair play in the draw, because he has no one there to represent him. I promised I would write to London on this subject, as I have a little interest myself in one of the tickets, if successful; there-

[1] This refers to his writing on a space in Mr. T. Jones's letter to Mr. O. Jones, probably confided to him to forward.

fore, in earnest, as it were, if you should have any doubt in your mind that there would be a want of fairness in the dealing, I should be glad if you would take notice of those numbers, if you have occasion to go within the charmed circle.

I should like to know if the Essay on *The Customs and Government of the British* had not better be thrown into a sort of History of the "Lives of the Princes". I know partly what "Truth" means, but I cannot get it into my skull as to what sort of poetry the subject would make. I am afraid that neither a *Cywydd* nor *Awdl* will take so well as one on the free metres. It would be necessary to use the cramped or artificial metres in some parts, perhaps.

I received a letter lately from Mr. Ed. Jones, the harpist; he said that T. Jones, the person under the folds of whose coat I am now concealed, intends issuing a second edition of Sion Rhydderch's *Grammar*, and that he (Mr. Jones) had been lately talking to Mr. Eddowes, the printer, in Shrewsbury, about it, when he was passing through there from London, who said he would be willing to venture the work if I would correct the press for him. I do not know what Mr. T. Jones, the Exciseman, thinks. Such a work requires a man well versed in the language and in the metres—for it should appear in a better form than even when Sion Rhydderch himself published it, and I am not sure but that D. Ddû intends to have a good portion of grammar in connection with his own book when it appears. I should like to have your opinion upon this intention of my friend, but do not mention my name direct to him. I am surprised he has not mentioned it to me that he intended to become publisher.

I am, yours in earnest (faithfully),

G. Mechain.

This pleasant 8th day of February 1791.

Mr. Owen Jones.

Letter XIII.—*Add. MSS.* 15,024.

Mr. Owen Jones,—Wele Ragymadrodd os ydyw yn addas, dymunaf i chwi roddi Title-page. Os ydyw llythyrenau y rhan gyntaf o'r Traethawd etto yn gyssylltiedig byddwch mor fwyn ac erchi argraffu Tri chant yn rhagor, gwnewch ammod a'r argraffydd yn nghylch y gost fal ac y trosglwyddwyf ichwi yr arian, canys mae gennyf yn awr ynghylch saith gant o enwau, ac yr wyf yn disgwyl ynghylch cant etto. Ni wn a fyddai dau gant yn ddigon, rhag ofn i rai o'r enwau gilio yn eu haddewid.

Os ydyw y llythyrenau ynghyd, ni bydd onid cost y papur a gosodiad y wasg arno. Nid oes yn y 700 enwau ond rhyw rhan o swydd Feirion, rhan o swydd Ddinbych, a rhan o swydd Drefaldwyn.

Er mwyn cyfeillgarwch moeswch wybod pa faint a anfonodd eu cyfansoddiadau ar Wirionedd. A ganodd D. Ddû yn feddylgar orchestol, neu y Nant yn gyfarwydd reolaidd? Os darfynt, gwell i'r Mechain gadw ei glod cyn colli; ac os na ddarfynt, er prysured wyf mi gyssylltaf *Awdl*; os anfonwch air yn ebrwydd fod immi ryw debygoliaeth am y gadair, erfyniaf hyn yn ddioed canys y mae'n edifar genyf oedi ysgrifenu ar Wirionedd.

Os meddyliwch yr enillaf mi ysgrifenaf, onide gollyngaf y bwriad heibio; dylwn glywed yn ebrwydd. Mae y car ar y sawdl. Mae yr ail o Fehefin yn agos. A ysgrifenodd neb ar y Defodau yn rhyddiaith?

Eich rhwymedig Wasanaethydd,

Llanfechain. WALTER DAVIES.

O.S.—Mi fynnais argraffu cant o Gynygiadau helaeth iawn ynghylch cynnwysiad y Traethawd. Yr ydwyf yn brysur yn eu taenu hyd y wlad, maent yn llonaid haner *sit*. Os daw y llyfrau drosodd cyn Eisteddfod Llanrwst bydd yno gyfleustra i ymado ag amryw o honynt.

Addressed—Mr. O. Jones,
Upper Thames Street, London.

Postmarks—SHREWSBURY; LONDON, MA. 20, '91.

[This letter has no date, but this is ascertained by the post-mark.—T. W. H.]

TRANSLATION.—LETTER XIII.

MR. OWEN JONES,—Here is the Introduction, if it is suitable. I wish you would draw out the Title page. If the type has not been distributed, please order another 300 copies to be printed; and agree with the printer as to the cost, that I may send you the money. I have now over 700 names, and I expect another 100. But perhaps 200 copies would be sufficient, as some of the subscribers may withdraw. If the type is still together, the additional cost would be paper and press-work labour only. These 700 subscribers are in Merionethshire, Denbighshire, and Montgomeryshire.

On the ground of friendship, pray let me know how many have sent in compositions on "Truth". Has D. Ddû sent in anything very superior, or the Nant anything in regular form? If so, Mechain perhaps had better keep the laurels he has won.

If they have not, busy as I am, I would put an *Awdl* together. If I could get word soon, I might have a chance for the Chair. I am sorry I did not attempt writing on "Truth". If you think I will win, I'll write, otherwise I will set the matter aside. I ought to hear immediately, as the car is on one's heels. The 2nd of June is near. Has any one written on the "Customs" in prose?

Your bounden Servant,

Llanfechain. WALTER DAVIES.

P.S.—I printed 100 of the proposals about the Essay, and have been diligent in distributing them through the country. It makes up a half-sheet. If the book could be got out against the Llanrwst Eisteddfod, I should get a good chance to dispose of many.

Mr. Owen Jones.

LETTER XIV.—*Add. MSS.* 15,030.

HYNAWS GYMRO,—Wele *Aletheia* yn dyfod, os nad ydyw yn rhy hwyr iddi redeg. Os rhed hi ac nad ydyw yn ddigonol o'r cyflym cadwed y Myfyr hi, ac na anfoner hi er gwarth i'w pherchenog i Lanrwst. Nid oes hoel yn fyr yn ei phedolau hyd eithaf fy ngwybodaeth, ag heblaw hynny, mae ar ddull y mwthfeirch, yn hirfain, os caiff farchog cyfarwydd nid wyf yn ammau na bydd yn agos i'r blaenrhed. Escusoded y Myfyr hunan Philalethes, canys mae hir cyfeillach yn creu eofnder. Os na gyrrir Aletheia i Llanrwst, a gaiff Philalethes y gymmwynas gan y Myfyr o wybod hynny cyn Sul y Pentecost, fal gwyr pa fodd i ymddwyn. Nid wyr y Mochnant i Phil. ysgrifenu ar Wirionedd; gwelais ganddo ddoe lythyr wedi ei gyfarwyddo at y Myfyr, mae'n debygol fod ynddo gyfrinach, canys ni adawai 'fe i'r Mechain wybod gair a oedd ynddo. Am y testunau canlynol ni waeth gan Phil.—boddied y Myfyr a'r Gymdeithas eu hunain. Am *Eurgrawn Cymraeg*,[1] balch a fyddai pe deuai ymlaen, ond nid oes fawr obaith o lwyddiant, mae rhy fychan o wresowgrwydd yn y wlad—dri chant fyddai eithaf galwad am danynt,—mae eu danfoniad yn anhwylus ar draws mynyddoedd, a'r Dû a'r Nant, a gormod o glwyf-y-brenhin arnynt. Gair neu ddau cyn y Sulgwyn at eich Ufuddaf Wasanaethwr,

Mai 30ain, 1791. Y MECHAIN.

Dull cynghanedd yn yr Awdl sydd *peillonol* oddiwrth hen arferion. Mae pob penill yn cynwys 32 o llinellau, 4 o gyw. deu.

[1] This intention was subsequently carried out in the publication of the *Greal* in 1805.—T. W. H.

hirion, 2 fyrion, 2 hirion, 4 wawdodyn byr, 8 o huppynt byr, ac yno yn dychwelyd yn ei ol yr un ffordd ac y daeth; canys drwg yw'r ffordd na thramwyir ond unwaith.

MECHAIN.

Mae Mechain yn gobeithio yr una Myfyr ag ef yn ei farn ynghylch "Gwirionedd." Y mae wedi ei dystiolaethu yn ol yr Ysgrythyrau, a'r tystiolaeth sydd wir.

D.S.—Fod twyll trwy'r Awdl yn y masculine gender, canys Satan oedd y twyllwr cyntaf, a byddai yn amherffaith ei alw ef yn fenyw. Gwirionedd sydd yn y feminine. Ond pan feddylir y Duwdod, neu ei briodolaeth, yno mae yn neuter, megis yn y cynwysiad. Nid oes achos i neb wybod pwy yw y Philalethes ond y Myfyr.

To Mr. Owen Jones,
148, Upper Thames Street, London.

TRANSLATION.—LETTER XIV.

GENEROUS CYMRO,—Here is "Aletheia" coming, if not too late to go on the course. If Myfyr thinks she will not take the lead, let us not enter her for Llanrwst, to the disappointment of her owner. There is not a nail short in her to the best of my knowledge. She looks a thorough-bred, and with a good jockey I have no doubt she will equal the best. I hope Myfyr will excuse Philalethes's good opinion of himself; long friendship makes one familar. If "Aletheia" be not sent to Llanrwst may Philalethes have the favour of knowing it before the Pentecost, that he may know what to do. The Mochnant does not know that Phil. has composed on Truth. Yesterday I saw in his possession a letter he had addressed to the Myfyr. He would not tell me its contents—of course he has private matters to write about. Concerning the other subjects it does not matter to Phil. Let Myfyr and the Society do what they think best. As regards a Welsh magazine, I should be proud to see one, but I fear there is not much prospect of success, for there is too little enthusiasm in the country. Three hundred copies would be its utmost circulation, I should think; it being so difficult to forward it over the mountains; and, then, the Dû and the Nant have so much of the "King's evil" in their constitution. A line before Whitsuntide to your humble servant.

May 30, 1791. MECHAIN.

Mr. Owen Jones.

The style of the awdl is *peillonol* after the old style. Every stanza contains thirty-two lines. Mechain hopes Myfyr will

agree with him about "Truth." It is based upon Scripture, and Its testimony is true.

N.B.—There is a fault in the *Awdl* as to the gender. Satan is masculine, that is correct, but Truth is put in the feminine. When reference is made to the attributes of the Deity, the neuter is sometimes used. No one need know who Philalethes is.

LETTER XV.—*Add. MSS.* 15,031.

Mehefin 20ed, 1791.

Y CAREDIG GYMMWYNASWR,—I'r oedd y Mechain yn llawn fwriadu myned i Eisteddfod Llanrwst, trwy annogiad y Mochnant, oni buasau i anffawd ddisgyn arno (megis ar y Bol Haul gynt) ag i ysigo ei law ysgrifenu ef wrth lwytho coed; Eithr fe a anfonodd gyfaill, pured ag y bu Jonathan erioed i Ddafydd i gymmeryd gofal llythyr oddiwrth y Myfyr, yr hwn a aeth yno yn ei unswydd o'r achos, ag a ddaeth ag ef yn ddiogel adref. Yn hwnnw y canfu y Mechain y testun am y fl. canlynol sef *Cyflafan y Beirdd,* un a'i boddiodd yn fawr, gwell na *Gwirionedd,* o herwydd testyn rhy nefolaidd ydoedd i ymorchestu arno trwy annogiad neb; dylasai y fath darddu o ddaionu calon yr Awdwr yn unig. Y Gymdeithas a'i boddiodd hefyd drwy attal rhoddi ariandlws am y fl. nesaf, canys y mae y Mechain yn gydwybodol o ddoniau y Dû, a braidd na ddigalonai canys dyma fi wedi eu orthrechu ef ddwywaith (dû 'nte bellach,) ar *Ryddid,* a *Gwirionedd;* a buasai yn saeth farwol iddo i'r Dû gaffael tlws arall am *Gyflafan y Beirdd.* Lleferir hyn wrth y Myfyr yn unig, cyfaill ym marn y Mechain y sydd a chlo ar y gyfrinach a ymddiriedir iddo. Ac un a bentyrodd gymmwynasau ar ben Meredig, yr hwn (a obeithir) na fydd fyth ar ol o dalu llôg o ddiolchgarwch. Ni fedr y Mechain ond rhyfeddu a chanmol callineb y Myfyr, y mae at ddiniweidrwydd y golomen yn chwanegu cyfrwysdra sarph, yn ol cyngor yr apostol, canys y mae yn peri i'r Mechain dybio yn dda o hono ei hun, y pryd na bo achos. "Yr ymdrech a'r dorch" (meddai y Myfyr) "oedd rhwng y Bardd Cwsg, a Philelutheros," ond ni ynganodd ef air mai Phil. oedd y trechaf—yna "rhy ddiweddar fu Philalethes," gan dybied y byddai yn esmwythach gan y Mechain glywed hynny, na darfod i Aletheia redeg a methu cyrhaedd yr Argeisnod. (distaw.)

Dymunodd y Myfyr lafn o lythyr o Lanrwst, ag er na bu y Mechain yno, fe a ddichon anfon rhywfaint o'r hanes a glywodd gan y cyfaill a fu yno (yr hwn sydd fab i wr o drichant yn y

flwyddyn). Gwelodd y Mechain fras naddiad y llythyr a anfonwyd o'r Eisteddfod at y Gymdeithas; hwy a fuont drwy y prydnawn yn gwneud ac yn datwneud; sef y Dû, ei frawd, a'r Mochnant. Crybwyllasant ynddo fod y Gadair am y testunau disyfyd heb ei rhoddi, am ryw achos a gadwasant yn ddirgel, ond w . . . . . fel y mae y Mechain yn deall fel hyn a fu. Trwy annogiad y Mochnant anfonodd y Gymdeithas eirchiad i'r Dû ar Nant . . . . . a chyfansoddi ar y testunau rhigymaidd arferol mewn Eisteddfod. Bwriad y Mochnant yn hyn oedd i Jonathan Hughes (yr hwn a lysenwodd yn Fardd anynad), gael un gadair yn ei oes, am ei fod yn ei foddio ef yn fawr trwy ymddangos yn noethlymyn fab Awen ymhob Eisteddfod, o Gorwen i Lanrwst. Yn ufuddol i orchymyn y Gymdeithas dechreuodd yr awenyddion ddinoethi eu trysorau, rhai ag ychydig o gallineb, eraill yn llawn ffolineb; ac eisteddodd ddau o locustiaid yr Aipht, a elwir . . . . ar y frawdfainc, gwŷr wedi darllen llawer yn Ovid, Erasmus, a Therence, tybiasant y medrent farnu barddoniaeth Gymreig. Ar eu llaw ddeheu yr oedd y Pencerdd megis paun yn dangos ei blu brithion i yrr o wyddau, ar eu llaw aswy yr oedd Cadeirfardd Llanelwy, a *semper paratus* . . . . uwch ei ben. Pump o destunau a roddwyd. Y ddau awenydd farnwyr a gyfansoddasant, o ran boddio y gymanfa (fel ac y tybiwyd), yna rhoddwyd Gwilym Cadfan fy hen athraw i bigo eu beiau, ag i edrych pwy oedd y pencerdd am y gadair. Y barnwyr ni feddyliasant fod y Nant yn canu o ddifri, hyd onid aethant i gadeirio Hywel Eryri, yna dangosodd y Nant mai nid cellwair yr oedd, trwy ddweyd mai efe a bioedd y gadair, ac efe a'i mynnai. Aeth ar hyn yn gythryfwl gwyllt, un yn gweiddi mai Hywel oedd y Cadeirfardd, Offeiriad Llanrwst yn atteb, "Chair him, chair him in a minute." Y Mochnant yn crynu rhag ofn y Nant; a'r Nant yn crynu o gynddeiriogrwydd wrthynt oll. Dyna ichwi effaith, oferedd a phechadurus darddiad eisteddfodau, yr hyn a eglurais yn fy annerch i'r Gymdeithas yn ol Eisteddfod Llanelwy. Pe bai fodd i newid yn y Traethawd, ynghylch Dryden yn goganu yr ymddadl ar Etholedigaeth; canys os i sefyll ar ysgwyddau papist, ag un a drodd ei broffes er boddio y llys . . . . . i fod yn "Laureat" yna hawdd a fydd fy nghodymmu gan y mwyaf egwan o'r Calfiniaid. O flaen gwaith Saesneg Dryden rhodder fel hyn—neu'r gyffelyb, fal y byddo cysylltiad y synwyr yn gofyn. . . . "Y rhai a ysgrifenant yn rhy wresog ymhlaid etholedigaeth ddiammodol, a feddylir eu bod yn rhyfygu edrych yn rhy bell i ddirgeloedd y Goruchaf; o'r tu arall cableddus yw y rhai a lwyr wrthwynebo athrawiaeth na ddeallont; o ba rai, gellir barnu fod Dryden, pan gyfansoddodd fal y canlyn. 'Here the Doctors,'" etc.

O.S.—Heddyw y mae Mechain yn cychwyn i'r Ysgol—a phryd y bo gan y Myfyr achos i Ysgrifenu atto ef, cyfarwydder y llythyr at Mr. Edward Evans, Junior, Glanbrogan, near Llanfyllin, Montgomeryshire. Yr hwn a'i trosglwydda i'r Mechain gyda gofal, yn ebrwydd. Geill y Myfyr ymddiried iddo 'n gwbl.

Wyf ar frys, eich rhwymedig wasanaethwr,

Mr. Owen Jones. W. Ð.

Post marks, SHREWSBURY; LONDON, JU. 24, '91, F. 4.

TRANSLATION.—LETTER XV.

June 20th, 1791.

KIND FRIEND,—Mechain had full intention to go to Llanrwst Eisteddfod, but an accident, happening to his right hand by loading timber, prevented his going. However, he sent a friend —one as true as Jonathan was to David—there, and to receive Myfyr's letter. He has returned and brought it safe. By this, Mechain learns the subject proposed for the next year to be "The Massacre of the Bards", which has pleased him much better than "Truth". The latter is too high a subject for frail and mortal man to compete upon. He has been much pleased to learn that the Society will not issue a silver medal the next year. Mechain is fully aware of the powers of the Dû, and would be discouraged in competing with him, only that he has twice beaten him—upon "Liberty" and "Truth", and it would be a mortal wound to Mechain that the Dû should gain on "The Massacre of the Bards." This I say only to Myfyr, as a friend who has the power of keeping a secret to himself, and who has heaped on the head of Meredig obligations which he shall ever respect and keep. He cannot but praise Myfyr for his wisdom, keenness, and kindness. Mechain feels grateful for his flattering words towards him. And he can understand, when he says that the race lay between Bardd Cwsg and Phileleutheros; and when he was silent about Phil; and when he says—"Philalethes was too late," that this would be more agreeable to say than that "Aletheia" would not reach the winning post.

Myfyr requested a line from Llanrwst. Though Mechain was not there, he is able to send a bit of news which he gets from his friend who went, and who is the son of a freeholder of £300 a year. Mechain saw the rough draft of the letter sent from the Eisteddfod to the Society. The Dû, his brother,

and the Mochnant, spent the evening in making and unmaking rules. The Chair was altered, to be connected with the impromptu subjects; but they kept the reason of the change amongst themselves. As Mechain understands, it stood thus. At the instigation of Mochnant the Society sent a request to the Dû and the Nant to compose in the free metres on certain subjects in the Eisteddfod. The object the Mochnant had in view was, I believe, that Jonathan Hughes, (whom he styled the "peevish bard"), should have one chair in his time, because he, the Mochnant, thought he was a poet, born so, and he had pleased him, from the time of the Corwen Eisteddfod to that of Llanrwst. So the poets opened their lips in obedience to the commands, displaying their various abilities, and opening up the secret lodes of ore. Some brought out gold and wisdom, others brass and folly. There were several clergymen present, who thought that because they could manage Ovid, Erasmus, Terence, in the original tongues, they could judge Welsh poetry. On their right, sat the chief musician, who appeared like a peacock displaying its gay plumage before a lot of geese. On their left sat the chaired bard of St. Asaph; and *semper paratus*. . . . overhead. Five subjects were given to be competed on. The two sons of the Muses were thereon called forward to compete extempore, and Cadfan was to act as umpire. The judges awarded in favour of Hywel Eryri, and proceeded to chair him. This fired the Nant, who protested that the Chair was his—and "he would have it", he said. Thereupon a scene of great uproar ensued. Some one shouted out that the chair belonged to Hywel, and the Vicar of Llanrwst called out lustily, "Chair him, chair him in a minute." Mochnant became nervously afraid of the Nant, and the Nant became violent, and showed his rage to every one. This is a specimen of some of the evils connected with these Eisteddfods. I should have been glad to alter the expression about Dryden satirising Predestination. Had I sought for the honours of a *laureate* at the hands of a papist turncoat I could be upset by a weak Calvinist. Before the words of Dryden I would insert:—"Those who write with too much warmth on the side of conditional Election, may be accused of prying too far into the secrets of Heaven; on the other hand, those who deny Election, may be deemed to side with blasphemy. It is a subject they cannot understand. Of this class is Dryden's remark when he writes, 'Here the Doctors,'" etc.

P.S.—Mechain is starting to-day to school, and when Myfyr writes, please address to him, to the care of Mr. Edward Evans, junior, Glanbrogan, near Llanfyllin, Montgomeryshire,

who will forward it to Mechain with all fidelity. Myfyr may rely upon him. I am, in haste, your humble servant,

W. D.

Mr. Owen Jones.

LETTER XVI.—*Add. MSS.* 15,031.

HYNAWS GYMRO,—Byrbwyll addewid a wneis—onid anniben gyflawniad yn canlyn o anfon gair i chwi pa fodd mae y Traethawd yn dderbyniol. Y deallgar Hanesydd a hoffwr Brythoneg sydd i'w ganmol. Y tyrchod, chwedl y Myfyr, sydd i'w oganu—ambell un yn talu am dano hanner-coron, arall driswllt, ac yn gweled ei fod yn werth yr arian; eraill yn ei brisio i dair ceiniog. Un Iuddew meddw o eulun offeiriad a gynnygiodd chwe'cheiniog amdano, a phe cawsai efe am hynny, nid hwyrach y buasai yn edifar gantho roddi cymmaint yn ofer. Offeiriad arall a anfonodd immi gyfarchiad a mwy o glod ddengwaith nag a haeddais I erioed, gan ryfeddu fod y fath iaith ag ymadrodd wedi ei gyfansoddi ynghyffiniau Berwyn, a'm bod i yn haeddawl o ddiolchgarwch y wlad. Efe anfonodd am ddeuddeg o'r Traethiadau gan ddymuno ar fod yr annerch honno yn sylfaen cyfeillgarwch rhyngom; fe a dystiolaethodd ei awyddfryd i goleddi yr iaith, a chrybwyllodd pe cyhoeddid amryw draethiadau mewn purdeb iaith y deuai y mwyaf anneallgar yn gyfarwydd yn y Gymraeg heb os, ac heb yn waethaf i'n goganwyr (meddai ef). Mae ein hiaith mewn cyflwr o gynyddiad mewn Rhyddiaith er dydd y dysgawdwr Dafis. Amryw yn anghredu i'r Mechain wneuthur y Traethawd, a chyhoeddwyd gan un enllibiwr, mae caniatad a gafodd o roddi ei enw wrth waith un arall. Mae un o'r Calfiniaid sydd yn byw Y 'Nghroes Oswallt yn ysgrifenu nodau arno, lled chwerw mae yn debygol. Un arall a anfonodd attaf i ofyn a gyfieithwn i'r Traethawd i'r Saesonaeg, ac os na wnawn, a roddwn i gennad iddo ef wneuthur hynny.

Ond i ddywedyd ar fyr ynghylch cymmeriad y Traethawd, llwyddianus ydwyf hyd yn hyn; canys mae "*Rhagluniaeth yn rhoddi imi hawddgarwch yngolwg yr Aiphtaid.*" Dyledus wyf o flynyddoedd o deyrnged i'r Myfyr, pan ddel Awen o'r carchar y mae hi ynddo yn bresennol; pawb yn rhyfeddu a minnau fy hun braidd yn meddwl mae breuddwyd oedd immi gael y fath haelioni ar law Meredig. Rywbryd yn Rhagfyr os iach a fyddaf, y cyrchaf tua Rhydychen, ag eallai i Lundain—os na wel rhagluniaeth yn orau fyrhau fy esgyll a'm gollwng i'r dommen yn fy ol—gyda phob gostyngeiddrwydd a

diolchgarwh i'r wyf yn arddelwi y Gymmr . . . o fod ichwi yn rhwymedicaf ac ufuddaf wasanaethydd da.

Llan y Myneich, Medi 8ed, 1791. GWALLTER MECHAIN.

Address—Mr. Owen Jones.

TRANSLATION.—LETTER XVI.

GENEROUS CYMRO,—I was too hasty in my promise, and have been very slow in my performance, that of writing to you about the Essay, to tell you how it has been received. You, the intelligent historian and conservator of the British language, deserve the praise. There are persons, as Myfyr describes, of the "mole" kind, these should be scorned; some pay half-a-crown for it; others three shillings, and say it is full *worth* it; there are others again who will set its value down at three pence. One drunken parson Jewishly offered me sixpence for it; if he had it even for that, he would, no doubt, have thought he was only throwing his money uselessly away. But another clergyman sent me such words of praise that I do not think myself worthy of the tenth of it. He was surprised there was any one living on the skirts of the Berwyn able to pen such language. He sent for twelve copies, and wished that this should be the commencement of a lasting friendship between us, also expressing himself as most warmly attached to Welsh studies; and was of opinion that if there were works written in a good style of language, they would be the means of improving the most backward, and of drawing more attention to the Welsh—to the confounding of its enemies. Credit is due to Dr. Davies, who has established the language, and brought it to a high form. There are some who do not believe that Mechain could write such an essay; and say, that he has only attached his name to another man's work. I hear that there is a Calvinist in Oswestry writing a reply to some part of it. One person writes to me, asking me to publish the essay in English, or permit him to do so. I have been successful so far, and Providence has given me favour in the "eyes of the Egyptians." I owe years of debt and tribute to Myfyr, whom I will pay when the Muse gets its freedom. Every one is surprised,—and to me, it is even a dream, that Meredig has behaved so generously towards a stranger. If I am well, I shall go to Oxford in December, and perhaps so far as London, if my wings be not clipped—when I shall be down in a heap. With humility and gratitude, I acknowledge myself to be, generous Cymro,

Your most obedient and faithful servant.

Mr. Owen Jones. GWALLTER MECHAIN.

LETTER XVII.—*Add. MSS.* 15,024.

HYNAWS GYMRO,—Hir edau a ddirynwyd ar bellen amser, er pan glywais oddiwrthych; a minnau mor ddifraw ysmala *heb ymofyn, ai byw y Myfyr.* Gobeithiaf maie, ac iach lawen hefyd. Gyrais ychydig linellau attoch ryw amser yn ol, a chwithau un ai yn rhy brysur efo bydol negesau cartrefol a'i yn ymdeithio; neu fe allai yn ammau fy mod yn rhy astud efo'r *lladin i* gael hamdden i ddarllen ac ysgrifenu llythyrau, etc. neu ryw ffwdan neu gilydd. 'Rwy'n foddlon i bob esgus rhwystr onid sorriant; os yw y cwmmwl dudew hwnnw rhyngof a chyfeillgarwch y Myfyr, yna ni byddaf esmwyth hyd oni chymmoder fi ag ef.

Tlawd erioed—dyledwr wyf,
Dyledog—rhy dlawd ydwyf;
Ni feddai fodd gwiw-rodd ged,
I dalu degwm dyled,
I Ywain gu enwog iaith,
Myfyr mwya 'ei afiaith;
I Daliesin Elphin yw,
Sywdeg Fesenas[1] ydyw.

[KIND CYMRO,—A long thread has been spun off the ball of time since I heard from you; and have been myself too careless to enquire whether the Myfyr was alive. I hope so, and well, and cheerful also. You have been too busy with your affairs, or from home, to write, or perhaps thought I was myself too busy with the Latin to read and write letters, or, was engaged with some other occupation. I am prepared to meet anything but a frown, hoping there is no such cloud between me and the friendship of Myfyr; if it should so happen I shall not give myself rest until I am reconciled.

[I have always been poor,—I am a debtor—deep in debt—very poor; have not the means to pay the tithe of what I owe to Ywain, the good and excellent scholar, Myfyr, of so generous a nature, who to Taliesin was his Elphin,—and a liberal-hearted Mæcenas.]

Now puff'd with pride like the frog in the fable I presumed to make too free with the names of bards of a superior sphere, and the muse bore me headlong beyond the bounds of modesty. I should not have violated the sacred name of Taliesin—immortal chief of the Idrisian choir—with such a mean comparison. All that I can boast of is an innate spark, faintly glowing, causing

[1] Mæcenas.

an insatiable thirst after knowledge. Sychedig! Sychedig! Who will draw me water out of the well of Bethlehem? I languish for abilities to reap the Heliconian harvest, which I view with the help of a perspective at a very great distance, insomuch that a river of four years' wading glides between me and the garden of delights.

> Na Dyfrdwy yn fwy o faint
> Twrw! Och! Ammorth—trichymmaint!
> Aber i gnawd a bair gnif
> Geirw gwglawn garegoglif.

Sometimes I am so far deprived of reason that I would peevishly pick a quarrel with Providence for placing me in such a low station, envying my superiors in genius and fortune; but as soon as reason retouches the lyre, the evil spirit vanishes, and my soul reassumes the Epictetian garb; and upon meditating the great law of consideration that the Primum Mobile of the universe had in his power to create me a *twrch daear* (earth-mole), or what is more loathsome, *llyffant du dafadenog*, I rest content.

Had I a genius of music, and the ability of soaring into the region of sublimity, I would compare myself to a winged lark; and e'er my pinions attempted to ascend the airy ladder, I fell from the nest among the brood of the dragons of envy, howling and yelling whelps, frogs of the deep incessantly croaking, who seem greatly disturbed at the approach of the cherub *Haelioni*, who was sent by Heaven to distinguish me from this infamous crew, by releasing one of my public wings from the glutinous mire. And when the kind messenger will give my other wing a flip, I shall soar to my designed element, and chirp the Ode of Liberty, and leave the inhabitants of the lake to murmur until they make one another deaf.

Wele hai! digon bellach, onide geill y Myfyr feddwl fod y Mechain yn gwallgofi, ond er hyny i gyd o siarad, mae'r afon fyth yn fy meddwl, fe orfydd imi oddef aml i ias o ddeintgryd cyn y cyrhaeddwyf ffrwd a'm gollyngai yn ddisymwth i dragywyddoldeb. Yr ydwyf yn awr yn gweled yr anghenrheidrwydd o ddysg, ac nid wyf yn rhyfeddu i Pope ddweud—

> "A little learning is a dangerous thing,
> Drink deep of the Pierean spring,
> Or do not drink at all."

Par fodd y mae y cyfeillion Gwilym Owain a Iorwerth Gwilym ac eraill? mudion oll am a wn i, a meirwon hefyd. Pe buaswn yn llogell Gwilym i ganfod yr holl llyfrgelloedd yn Llundain,

Rhydychain, a Môn. Môn a ddylaswn henwi yn gyntaf, pe buasai onid er mwyn Llywelyn ddu a anwyd ac a fagwyd ynthi.

[Quite enough ! Else Myfyr may take Mechain to be out of his mind. Say what you may, the River is before me, and until I shall have crossed the stream I shall suffer many a chill through my system, and that before I get half through. Perhaps I may not live to see myself over. I am so deeply impressed with the value and importance of learning that I am not surprised that Pope should say—" A little learning," etc. How are the friends Gwil. Owain and Edward Williams and the rest ? They are all dumb, and dead for all I know. I should like a dive into the libraries of London and Oxford, and Anglesey,—I should say Anglesey first, out of respect to the memory of Llywelyn Ddu's (Lewis Morris) native country.]

Goronwy had but a dim glimpse of genius in comparison with that bright luminary. Where are all his valuables ? His brother Richard's ? and other phenomena of the Venedotian race ? Give me some account,—you are at the fountain head, and from the pinnacle of experience and acquired information can view the wide world.

Furnish a man of British common sense with Llywelyn's laborious collections, that he may give Camden a mortal wound in the vulnerable part of his carcase. But you will say it is not hard to engage a dead man ; true, but yet although he is dead he still lies in the mouth of every one that reads his history. Gather his remains together, they deserve a golden urn, at the sight of which Bede, Carte, Lyttleton, and even Robertson, the sturdy Scot, will be forced to quit the Celtic field.

Ond rhag pechod i yrru y gwr tew glan Ywain Myfyr allan o wynt yn darllen gyhyd llythyr, mi amcanaf roi cwlwm ar din fy chwedl, canys y mae yn hwyr bryd; a dygaf chwi mewn gwybodaeth fod cymmaint gwr a Gwallter Mechain yn cymmeryd ei gerbyd forsooth, y ddegfed o'r mis hwn i edrych a ydynt oll gartref yn Rhydychen. Y mae fy Athraw, Mr. Howel, a chanddo ryw neges yn Llundain yn dyfod gyda myfi, a deuaf innau gydag ef i ymweled ag Ywain, i fygu pibelled ac i ymwrando am newyddion. Y mae'r hen Gadfan yn clywed fod *Lansdown* yn hwylio rhyw un at y Madogwys, arhoswch immi gael rhyw râdd yn Rhydychen, a gyrwch fi yno. Nos dda i chwi,—ond er mwyn dyn 'rwyf hefyd yn ddigwilydd, disgwyliaf letty i ddau dan eich cronglwyd am noswaith neu ddwy, byddwn yn Llundain oddeutu y 17eg o'r mis. Gair o atteb a fydd roesawgar cyn y cychwynaf i Rhydychen.

[But for shame, and lest I should drive the jolly Ywain out

of breath in reading such a long letter, I will draw my story to a close, and let you know that the all-important person Gwallter Mechain intends taking coach the 10th of this month, to see if they are all at home at Oxford. Mr. Howell, my instructor, having business in London about the same time, intends accompanying me, and I shall visit Ywain, and enjoy a pipe and the news. Cadfan hears that *Lansdown* is about despatching some one to the Madogian [Indians]. Would that you would wait till I get a Degree in Oxford and send me there. Good night—but hold! I am bold to ask you to prepare a bed for two under your roof for a night or two. We shall be in London about the 17th of this month. A word in reply before I leave for Oxford will be acceptable.]

Wyf eich rhwymediccaf wasanaethydd,
GWALLTER MECHAIN.

Rhagfyr 1af, 1791.

There is an upstart poet in Edeyrnion, that hath this year appeared in public print, by the name of Sion Brwynog, whether he will arrive to be a competitor of the famous Brwynog, or rather Meillionog of Anglesey is a quære. For we, the sons of Clio, as Rhaiadr made appear, are very numerous in this scribbling age. There were 20 at Llanrwst. You may safely conclude more quantity than quality.

Direct to me at the Revd. Mr. Howell's, Llanymynech, near Oswestry, Shropshire. Adieu.

Address.—Mr. Owen Jones,
No. 148, Upper Thames Street, London.

Postmarks, OSWESTRY, and LONDON, DE. 3, '91. E.

Single sheet.

LETTER XVIII.—*Add. MSS.* 15,024.

Mechain, Ion. 22ain, 1792.

Y DIRAGRITH DEG EIRIAN, AG AMRYW GLOD GYMRO GLAN,—Yr ydwyf yn bwriadu cymmeryd y papur yn bur gynnil fel y caffwyf le i draethu hanner fy negesau attoch yn gyntaf. Ymesgusodaf fy mod mor daeog a dychwelyd o Lundain mor anniolchgar trwy roddi y baich ar ysgwydd yr Offeiriad Howel er lleied ei rym. Gan adael y rheswm yna ar haner ei draethu, âf ymlaen drwy ddwyn ar ddeall i chwi fy mod wedi cymmeryd gwib drwy rai parthau, dros Ferwyn, yn Ninbych a Meirion, a bod

yno feirdd yn ymorol yn egr y naill at yllall pa beth yw meddwl y testyn "*Cyflafan y Beirdd.*" Gwelais gip ar lythyr oddiwrth Fardd o Benllyn at y Mochnant yn cwyno mal hyn, air yngair, "Mi dderbyniais eich caredig lythyr fel y bu imi eu ddarllain gida hyfrydwch a gwelais y testun canlynol sydd i ganu arno sef *Cyflafan y Beirdd,* yr hwn sydd ddieithr i lawer o brydyddion, beth bynag i bob un ag y bym i yn ymddiddan yn ei gylch. Yr wy'n meddwl mai Gwallter Mechain a D. Ddû sy'n gwybod orau am y testyn o herwydd eu bod yn hysbys newn hanesion yr oesoedd gynt amdanaf fi y rwi yn meddwl gadel iddo ei ragor, mae gwell imi nag ymdrin a pheth nas gwn ddim amdano a'i adel i'r neb sydd gydnabyddus o honaw, nis gwn i ba beth i feddwl o honaw oni wnaeth hen Feirdd gynt gyflafan o'i hanfodd ac i'r beirdd presenol ei ddiwygio o'i bodd, onid yw hynny nis medraf i ddychymygu oni ddigwydd imi gyfarfod a rhyw hen gronicl i hyspysu amdanaw—ond gweles yn llyfr G. Mechain grybwylliad am y Beirdd gafodd gennad i ollwng eu hawenyddau allan o'r carchar yn amser lorwerth y cyntaf, ond ni welais i ynddo am ba beth y carcharwyd hwynt.—E. G., Llanfawr."

Felly os na chân rhyw un yn deall y testun yn well na'r Bardd uchod ni wiw i'wch boeni bwrw ariandlws. Cafodd Mr. Williams, o Frynn Eglwys yn Iâl lythyr oddiwrth fardd arall. (os beirdd y dylid galw y fath) yn holi yn egr ba beth oedd meddwl y testun. Bu D. Ddû efo y Mochnant yr Wythnos ddiweddaf, yr oedd efe yn dweyd mae Hywel Eryri, a enillai ar ganiad y Gyflafan, ond bydded sicr i chwi y bydd mwy o waith D. na H. yn y cyfansoddiad. Clywais genych yn Llundain fod y Dû yn myned at Paul Panton i Fôn, ond yr oedd ef yn awr yn myned i Fachynlleth i fyned yn Argraphydd at Titus Evans os medrai gyttuno ag ef. Parotowch ariandlws i'r Mechain am ei Draethawd ar *Lywodraeth y Brytanniaid,* canys ni fedr fod yn esmwyth ped f'ai ellyn ar ei wddf. Chwi a'i derbyniwch cyn y Llun cyntaf o Fawrth. Na ynganwch air wrth un enaid byw, chwi welwch yn amlwg fy hunandyb da yn erchi parotoi ariandlws, ond mewn gwirionedd nid wyf fi yn disgwyl ei ennill os arall a ddaw i'r maes. Ond fy marn ydyw y caf fi y maes immi fy hun, canys ni chlywais fod neb yn anturio gwaith un o'r ddiddarfod. Na farnwch yn anheilwng imi dithio y cylch fy hun os na ddaw arall i'm herbyn. Ped fawn gyn llawned o hunandyb da ac ydyw yr wy o wynn a melyn, mae immi gymmar ym mynwes rhai Beirdd. Fy holl ddichell pan ddelwyf ar dro i dy Mochnant ydyw manwl chwilio am lythyrau oddiwrth ei gyfeillion, o'r ran fy mod yn ddrwg dybus eu bod yn rhoi anair o'r tucefn immi. Ymhlith eraill gwelais un yn cynwys

geiriau at y Mochnant yn uniawn fel hyn, "I wish you would send either to Mr. W. O., Pentonville, or to Mr. Walters, Denbigh, for a bust of *D. Ddû*, as both of them have it drawn by a pencil, then you may do it in oil. Draw him in a meditating posture, with a pen in his hand, with a motto of some trawiad gorchestol o un o'i awdlau, his head encircled with ivy, and some stars about his head. Do not mention this to any one that I prompt you to draw my own likeness." O my dear self!!! Yr oedd yno dafod drwg gorchestol gan y Mochnant rhwng D. Ddû Feddyg a Glan Gors, o du y Nant, a D. Ddû Eryri o du Hywel. Glan Gors yn galw plaid Hywel yn *Dyrchod bol cloddiau*, D. Ddû mewn ad daliad yn ei alw yntau yn *Dwrch bol cors*. A dyna i chwi rybwd o newyddion; llosgwch y llythyr hwn, rhag bod fy ffolineb yn amlwg i neb ond y Myfyr—

> "Quod si me lyricis vatibus inseres
> Sublimi feriam sidera vertice."—*Horat.*

I.e., "Os y chwi a'm gesyd ymhlith y Beirdd, derchafaf fy mhen hyd entrych Caergwydion."

Myfi a debygwn nad oes yn fyr o hynny ond immi gaffael ar werth, y *Celtic Remains* o waith L. Morris, Esq., pe cawn wybod yn ddirgel pwy yw y perchenog a pha faint yw y pris. Myfi a'i prynnwn yn ddiattreg ond nid ar feddwl lledratta clod y marw immi fy hun. Myfi a roddwn iddo ei haeddawl barch megis y prif awdwr. Ychwanegiad a roddwn i atto a gaffai fod megis *Supplement* neu *Appendix*.

Mae y Mr. Evans a grybwyllais wrthych yn gelfydd yn y cyfryw waith ac yn addaw bob cynorthwy yn ei allu, ond y mae ef yn ofni y bydd yn anhawdd gan yr Argraphydd ei ollwng o'i law. I chwi yr ymddiriedaf am wybodaeth, a ellir ei gael gan y perchenog am bris gweddol, ag a wneiff Mr. Wms. ei ollwng o'i law dan ammod y caiff ef yr argraphiad; ond os gwerth y perchenog y copi, nid oes gan Wms. le i naccau ei roddi. Mae yn ddiammau genyf yr enillwn wrth y gorchwyl o herwydd fod amryw foneddigion yn ewyllysio yn dda immi, ac a fyddant foddlon i gynnorthwyo'r gwaith. Yr wyf wedi crybwyll wrth un neu ddau eisus; ond gwae fi! mae 'r aderyn yn y llwyn. Mynnwch yr hanes yn ddieithrol rhag iddynt fod yn gyndyn os clywant fy mwriad.

Ni fedrai ddychymyg un cyhoeddiad arall y gallaf i ennill nac elw na chlod wrtho yn awr, onid hwn. Byddwn ddiwyd yn ei gylch, ac a'i gyrwn allan yn fisawl rifynau.—Y 26ain o Chwefror y cychwynaf i Rydychen. Os cewch hamdden i ysgrifennu attaf cyn hynny. Cyfrwyddwch attaf at the Revd. Mr. Lloyd,

Llandrillo, Merion., ond os gwedi hynny, sef dechreu Mawrth at Alban Hall, Oxford. Hir iechyd a llwyddiant ichwi ymhob daioni yw gwir ewyllys,

Eich ufuddaf wasanaethwr,
WALTER DAVIES.

Address,—Mr. Owen Jones,
No. 148, Upper Thames Street,
London.

Single sheet.

TRANSLATION.—LETTER XVIII.

Mechain, Jan. 22, 1792.

FAITHFUL AND MUCH HONOURED CYMRO,—I must economise my paper else I shall not be able to write all I have to say. I must beg to be excused for returning from London so abruptly, which was owing to Mr. Howel; so I hope you will not take me to be ungrateful. I have been making a hurried visit into Merionethshire and Denbighshire. I found several of the bards inquiring what was meant by the subject "The Massacre of the Bards." I had a glance at a letter which a Penllyn poet had written to Mochnant, as follows: "I received your kind letter and saw the subject for competition—'The Massacre of the Bards.' It is a subject that is quite strange to many of us—to all that I have been speaking to. I believe Gwallter Mechain and *D. Ddû* know more about it than any one else because they are versed in Ancient History; as to myself, I shall let it alone for those who know more about it. I can't make anything whatever of it, unless I get hold of some old Chronicle that gives information. I saw in G. Mechain's work a reference to some bards in Edward the First's time, who had committed some great havoc by their utterance, but I do not know what they were imprisoned for."—E. G., Llanfawr.

The Society need not trouble to get a silver medal if the poets know no more about it than this one. Mr. Williams of Bryneglwys in Yale received also a letter from another poet inquiring what the subject meant. D. Ddû was over with Mochnant last week; he said, his opinion was that Hywel Eryri would win on the "Massacre"; but you may be very sure if he does write that there will be more of D.'s than of H.'s work in it. You told me when in London that the Dû was going to Paul Panton's in Anglesey, but he is now going, I learn, to Machynlleth, to be a printer with Titus Evans, if they can agree as to terms. Now, prepare a silver medal for Mechain,

for the essay on the Government of the Britons (for he cannot be quiet, if his life were threatened); which you will receive before the first Monday in March. Say not a word to any one. You see what confidence I have in myself; but truly I hesitate if another should come to the field. However, it occurs to me that I shall have the course to myself, for I have not heard of any one intending to write on it, which opens a wide and interminable field. Were I as full of self as an egg is of white and yolk, I have no more than some others of the bards. When I go to Mochnant I am full of curiosity as to his correspondents; I fear they may have some word to say about me. I there dropped on a letter which was sent him from a correspondent who wrote as follows: "I wish you would send either to Mr. W. O., Pentonville, London, or to Mr. Walters, Denbigh, for a bust of *D. Ddû*," &c. &c.

There was[1] a fine display of bad language between D. Ddû Feddyg, and Glan Gors, the Nant, and Howel Eryri; Glan Gors calling Hywel's party "Hillock Moles", and D. Ddû in reply calling the other "*Bog-hole Moles*". Pray burn this letter that it may not appear puerile to any one except the Myvyr:

> "Quod si me lyricis vatibus inseres
> Sublimi feriam sidera vertice."—*Horat.*

I.e., "If you place me among the Bards, I shall lift my head up to the starry region."

And I am only short of reaching this station, wanting the *Celtic Remains*, by Lewis Morris, Esq. If I could get this I should be glad. I wish I could find out who is the owner of the manuscript, and what would be his price for it. I should purchase it at once, but not with the intention of stealing the honours from the dead; I should give the honour due to him, and which he is most worthy of, as the chief. What I should do would be to add thereto matters as a supplement or appendix. Mr. Evans, whom I named to you, would give me the necessary assistance, being an able person; but he is afraid the printer will be loath to let the manuscript out of his hand. I depend upon you to ascertain if the owner would let me have it for a reasonable sum, and whether Mr. Williams will let it out of his hands conditionally that he shall print it. But if the owner agrees to sell the copy, then Williams cannot refuse. I have no doubt but that I could make some gain by

[1] At Llanrwst Eisteddfod, I presume —T. W. H.

it, for there are many gentlemen who would patronise me by taking the book. I have named it to several; but, ha! the bird is in the bush. Find out without divulging the purpose, else they may be unwilling if they hear this.

I do not know of any other work just now, that I could get any money or credit by, but this; I should be diligent in getting it out, and when once started would bring a number out monthly. I shall be starting for Oxford on the 26th February; if you could find time to write to me before, address to me care of Rev. Mr. Lloyd, Llandrillo, Meirion.; if after that date, to Alban Hall, Oxford. May you have a long and prosperous life to promote every good work.

Your obedient Servant,

WALTER DAVIES.

Mr. Owen Jones.

LETTER XIX.—*Add. MSS.* 15,024.

YR HYNAWS GYMRO,—Minnau yr Ysgrifenydd gwibiedig echdoe ar Ferwyn, doe ar y Cefn-du yn Iâl, heddyw yn llawes Hiraethog, a ydwyf falch o'r achlysur i gaffael ysgrifenu at y Myfyr. Erbyn y meddyliwn ichwi dderbyn llythyr y Mechain, ffolineb oll, onid pryniad y *Celtic Remains*. I'r ydwyf yn ddifri ynghylch hynny etto, ac yn disgwyl atteb pan el cyfleustra ar ei liniau i dderbyn y gorchwyl.

Os rhyfeddir fy mod mor enllibaidd am y p—f f—dd, traethaf, a hynny ger bron nef a daear nad oes gennyf ddrwg ewyllys iddo, onid yr achos i ffrwd digofaint lifo dros y glannau yn y llythyr diweddar wedi canfod llythyr oddiwrth yr Homer eryraidd at un Gwilym Tegid Foel o Benllyn, gan ymorfoleddi yn ei awenyddawl lwyddiant, ac mewn un man yn crybwyll fel hyn:—

"Gwallter Mechain a ysgrifenodd yn faith lafurus ar Wirionedd onide fe a'i barnwyd yn rhy amgylchadwy i'r testyn." Nid oedd hynny wir (chwedl y Myfyr), oedd ni farnwyd un gair o hono o herwydd fod pen y mwdwl wedi ei gau cyn ei ddyfod i Lundain—ond ni waeth tewi, gwir a ddywedodd Goronwy—

"Gwyfyn du elyn dilyth,
Awen yw cenfigen fyth."

Cofiwch fi at Mr. W. O., ond na ddangoswch fy mhrygowthen

iddo, canys Jonathan fab Saul ydyw fe i Dafydd fab Jesse. Rhoddais yn y llythyr diweddaf gyfrwyddyd at

Eich ufudd wasanaethydd,

Ion. 26ain, 1792. WALTER DAVIES.

Mr. Owen Jones.

[This letter is written on a part of the sheet of the letter sent by "Peter and Jane Morris of Tyddyn Tudur", to Mr. Owen Jones their relative, which is also in the handwriting of Mr. Walter Davies.—T. W. H.]

TRANSLATION.—LETTER XIX.

KIND CYMRO,—The day before yesterday I was crawling over the Berwyn, yesterday traversing the Cefn-du in Yale, to-day I am sheltered within the sleeve of Hiraethog, and I am proud of the opportunity to write to Myfyr. You have had my letter about the purchasing of the *Celtic Remains*. I am in earnest about this, and am only expecting your answer when an opportunity presents itself to you.

I may be considered as envying the Chief Bard, but I may tell you openly that I have no evil design against him. Why I wrote so warmly in my last letter was, because I saw lately a letter from that would-be Homer, to one Gwilym Tegid Foel of Penllyn, exulting in his success, and writing as follows:—"Gwallter Mechain wrote at length on Truth, and exhibited much industry, but he was judged to deal with matters unconnected with the subject."

That was not true, as the Myfyr would say, for he had not been subjected to any criticism, as the adjudication was closed before his paper reached London. But I may as well withhold, and say with Goronwy,—

> "The *Muse* is always envious,
> And, like the *black moth*, shews its hateful nature."

Remember me to Mr. W. O., but do not shew my unworthy scrawls, for you are as Jonathan the son of Saul was to David the son of Jesse. I gave you my address in my last.

Your obedient servant,

Jan. 26, 1792. WALTER DAVIES.

Mr. Owen Jones.

LETTER XX.—*Add. MSS.* 15,031.

HYNAWS FYFYR,—I'r ydwyf yn *Rhydychen* er Gwyl Dewi, a heddyw cefais ychydig hamdden i ysgrifenu attoch, ac yn ol y dull arferol o ymadroddi i'r wyf yn gobeithio eich bod mewn iechyd, megys yr wyf finnau yn bresennol.

I'r wyf yn gweled fy hun gwedi cyfnewid fy elfen yn gwbl, prin y medraf goelio mae *Mechain* ydwyf. Am hynny er mwyn daionu gyrrwch linell attaf i'm hannog i gredu fy mod yn fyw; braidd na feddyliwn mai twyll breuddwyd ydyw, ac yn disgwyl deffro i fod yn brydydd gwladaidd yn ol. Moeswch wybod pwy a ysgrifenodd ar y testunau. I'r oedd *Rhaiadr* yn troedio cyffiniau Glyn cysgod angau pan welais i ef ddiweddaf, fe ddymunodd arnaf anfon fy hun attoch, mai arwyddnod y Mechain ydoedd *Merviniensis*. Nid testyn i ysgrifenu yn fyrbwyll arno ydoedd; gwelais amryw leodd ynddo i'w ddiwygio, ac i chwanegu atto, wedi ei yrru ymmaith. Croeswch allan y fan sydd yn dweud na bu Esgob yn Llanelwy rhawg wedi Sieffre Mynyw, yr hyn sydd gamosodiad, "canys o Amser *Asa* yr ail Esgob ynglylch y 7 ganfed hyd ddyddiau Sieffre y 13 ganfed ni bu un esgob yno." Nid oeddwn i onid ymddiried i'm cof yn aml yn y traethawd o achos diffyg llyfrau, ar gwalch hwnnw yn fynych yn fy nhwyllo, ond nid o'i fodd; dweyd y gwir sydd sydd dda. Pa beth bynag a ysgrifenais attoch yn ddiweddar allan o weddeidd-ddra maddeuwch i mi, gwendid cnawd ydoedd, i ba un y mae holl ddynol-ryw (mwy neu lai) yn ddarostyngedig.

Ydyw Iorwerth yn myned at y Madawgwys? I'r oedd dyn o Arfon yn cydymdaith a m'fi efo'r cerbyd o'r Mwythig i Rhydychen, yn dweyd iddo weled D. Ddû yn Llanystumdwy y Sadwrn o'r blaen. Mae yn debygol felly na chyttunodd efe ag Argraffydd Machynlleth. Nid ydwyf yn bwriadu dychwelyd i Gymru tan gwedi term gwyl Ieuan. Anfonwch linell o cefwch hamdden i'm cysuro yn y fangre hon. I mae gwr ieuanc o gyd ysgolhaig yn tynnu arnaf ddyfod gydag ef i weled *Stonehenge*, yn *Salisbury Plain*, yn niwedd Mawrth o hynny hyd 14eg o Ebrill, y pryd y mae Term y pasc yn dechreu. Onid nis gwn etto a âf a'i peidio.

Wyf eich ufudd wasanaethydd,

Alban Hall, GWALLTER MECHAIN.
Mawrth y 5ed, 1792.

Address—Mr. Owen Jones. Postmark—OXFORD.

LETTER XX.—TRANSLATION.

KIND MYFYR,—I am here in Oxford since St. David's day, and I have just now an opportunity of writing to you; and after the customary manner say, I hope you are well in health as it leaves me at present.

I feel within me a great change, being in a new element. I can scarce conceive that I am the "Mechain" at all; therefore send me a line in earnest to remind me that "I am myself", for I seem as in dreamland. Your letter will bring me back again to be a country poet. Let me know, if you please, who has written on the subjects. "Rhaiadr", when I saw him last, was apparently walking the "valley of the shadow of death." He, however, desired me to write and tell you that Mechain's signature was "Merviniensis. It is a subject that one cannot write satisfactorily upon without much time. I could make corrections in several places, and make additions also. Cancel out of it the statement that there was no Bishop in the See of St. Asaph, after Jeffrey of Monmouth, for some centuries. "From Asaph the first bishop in the 7th century, to Jeffrey in the 13th, there had been no bishop." I trusted to my memory very much in many parts of the Essay, because I had no books to refer to at hand, and my memory often deceived me unwillingly. I ought to have been correct.

Is Iorwerth going to the Madogian [Indians] ? There was a Carnarvonshire man travelling with me from Shrewsbury to Oxford, who saw D. Ddû in Llanystymdwy the previous Saturday. It is probable, therefore, that he had not come to terms with the Machynlleth printer. I do not intend returning to Wales until the midsummer vacation. Do send me a line to cheer and encourage me in this place. A fellow-student here has asked me to go with him to visit Stonehenge, on Salisbury Plain, about the end of March, or between that and the 14th of April, when the Easter term begins. I do not know that I shall go.

I am, your obedient servant,
GWALLTER MECHAIN.

Alban Hall,
March 5th, 1792.

Mr. Owen Jones.

LETTER XXI.—*Add. MSS.* 15,030.

DEAR SIR,—I am sorry to feel myself under the necessity of writing to you so soon after my departure from London. I promised to Mr. Price of the Bodleian to copy the two pages that are wanting in these few leaves which you saw of me, wherein was the handwriting of Richard Morris, it being two pages on a single quarto leaf of the size of this foliage. It being the quotation from the 18th chap. of the Preface[1] to the *Celtic Remains*, treating of the British Authors. And the 10th Author, viz. Nennius, and about the 20th line of the said 10§ 18 cap. The last line that Mr. Price has is thus "Something of the same kind was in Randulph Higden, an author, ..." N.B.—From thence if you would be so kind as to desire Mr. W. O. to copy the two pages to the place when it comes in thus . . . . "13 Bonhedd y Saint, or the noble descent of the Saints of Britain," etc.—You see by this that a part of the 10th, all the 11th and 12th Authors are wanting. I can't guess how I was so negligent as to come away without it. Altho' it may be of no use to Mr. Price, yet he has some respect for it. Mr. Jeffreys, alias Dr. Gomer, stole the leaf that is wanting when he lent him the whole. I have a favor to ask Mr. Price before I leave Oxford, and if I had that quotation copied from him I could assume a face with some excuse to go to him. I want to know also about Dr. Griffith Roberts in the Welsh School. If Mr. Price's name is in it. It must certainly be his, as he protests it is. I have left my Greek Grammar on the top of the bookcase. If these my enquiries could be procured the same time, I should be glad. I have sent orders to Mr. Edwd. Morris of Finch Lane, to call for the Grammar about the 15th, because he is to send me some parcel to take into the country. I wish you would the same time let me know what news from Denbigh in a small note. Mr. John Jones, the young man that was with me, is to stand a Candidate for a Scholarship in Jes. Coll. of £30 per ann.; none but natives of Denbighshire can stand for it, and there is but one besides Jones in College from Denbighshire.

I intend to set off about the 21st inst., and if I could get the convenience of applying to Mr. Price a day or two before, well and good. No more at present from

Your ever obedient servant,

WALTER DAVIES.

Alban Hall,
June 10th, 1792.

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[1] Query, Introduction.

Chwi a barasoch imi agor y clo sydd ymma yn Rhydychain onid ni feddaf fi un agoriad iddo ond digwilydd-dra. Cewch glywed oddiwrthyf cyn bo hir.

If Mr. Owen would lend you the first part of the *Celtic Remains*, Hugh would copy it in a trice, it being hardly above 50 lines.

The next letter I write will be a general one to the Society, with an Eulogism on the eloquence of Sion Ceiriog.

(To be continued.)

A PAROCHIAL HISTORY
OF
LLANFAIR CAEREINION.[1]

I.—Topographical.

Llanfair Caereinion is a parish lying near the centre of Montgomeryshire. In extent it measures about seven miles in length and about six miles in breadth. It is bounded by the following parishes—Manafon, Llanerfyl, Llangyniew, Llanwyddelan, Llanllugan, Castle Caereinion, and Welshpool, and contains within it the townships of Brynglas, Dolgead, Gelligason, Gwaenynog, Heniarth, Llanfair, Llanlloddian, Peniarth, Pentyrch, Rhiwhiriaeth, and Rhwsaflo. It lies within the ancient Welsh cantref of Llyswynaf, now called the Hundred of Mathrafal. The parish derives its name from its ecclesiastical foundation.

The rateable value of the parish in 1880 was £11,327. In 1803 the parish rates amounted to £909 19*s.* 4*d.*, at 7*s.* in the pound.

Surface and Geology.—Its surface is most pleasantly varied by valleys and hills; the latter, however, do not rise to any notable height to be designated mountains in the accepted geographical usage of the word. Moel Pentyrch is an elevation of some prominence, having one face rugged and precipitous, which makes it a picturesque scene in the landscape. Disgwylfa, or Mynydd y Drum, is another elevation—a

[1] This parish history was written in Welsh by Mr. Edward Pentyrch Gittins as an Essay for competition at the Llanfair Eisteddfod, Christmas 1881; which obtained the prize of £2 2s., offered by Mr. Morris C. Jones, F.S.A. It has been translated and arranged for the *Montgomeryshire Collections*, by Mr. T. W. Hancock, and several additions have been made to it.

weary waste and an upland, where formerly large quantities of turf used to be cut, and along the higher part of which the division line of this and Llanerfyl parish runs.

The principal rock of the district is the Wenlock shale. This, like many other districts in the county, has been the exploring ground of mining adventurers; but every search for ore and minerals has proved a losing speculation, lead being the principal ore sought for, and coal as a mineral. Some knowing genius, about eighty years ago, persuaded himself and others that there was coal near Moel Pentyrch, on the Gyfylche land. A company was formed, and a pit was sunk to a considerable depth. The capital of this company became exhausted, or the work was stopped because no coal appeared, and the thing was abandoned. It became current that the failure was the work of unfaithful men, who had taken a bribe for decrying the work, and that report came down as a tradition, which was believed, until about a dozen years ago, when another test was made of the place. Another company took the abandoned working in hand, and re-opened the pit. But, again, this company's capital became exhausted before sighting the black diamond, and the pit was closed. It now remains a monument to ignorance in the elements of coal mining. Explorations for lead ore have been made on land near Nantyrystrad. Some ore was discovered, but not sufficient to pay working expenses, and the adventure was wound up at considerable loss. We once asked the late Professor Peter of Bala, an eminent geologist, to explain the presence of small deposits, frequently seen, of lead and other ores found without order in strata not acknowledged as ore-producing ground, to which he humourously replied that he could not, but "thought they may have been put there by the Almighty to punish man for his ignorance".

Acreage.—The parish is said to comprise 16,157 acres.

Rivers.—The Banwy is the only river of any size, and which the late Rev. Walter Davies called the "Northern branch of the Vyrnwy". It unites with the latter near Mathrafal in the vale of Meifod. Some persons choose to call it the Einion; and new houses in the village have been called "Glan Einion" cottages, which is a misnomer. The Einion is only a stream of inferior proportions, and is evidently a tributary to the larger stream of the Banwy, falling into it near the farmhouse called Glyn Banw. The Einion has its source in Llyn Hir, a mountain tarn or lake on Mynydd y Drum. The Banwy rises in the heights of Bwlch y Fedwen beyond Cann Office and Garthbeibio. The banks of the Einion, it would appear from old ruins, were once more populous than at present.

Lake.—The only lake is that called Llyn Hir, on Mynydd y Drum, otherwise called Disgwylfa. It is partly in the parish of Llanerfyl. In length it is about 300 yards, and in width 150 yards. Its depth in the deepest part is about 16 feet. In some very dry summers its water nearly dries up; when at that time may be seen, about twenty feet from its margin, a large stone with an inscription thereon, which some persons have read as "MET . II . 1430", together with inscriptions of subsequent dates.

WELLS AND SPRINGS.—*Ffynon y Campiau.*—This is a spring on the slope of the Disgwylfa, near the Roman road. According to tradition it takes its name from the Romans having held games near by. However, the place was famous for old Welsh games and sports.

Ffynon y Wrach (The Witch's Well).—This is a spring on the side of Moel Pentyrch. There is nothing specific in the properties of its water beyond its purity. It derives its fame from being the well at which the parishioners used to meet on Trinity Sunday to make merry and to drink the water sweetened with sugar.

Ffynon Wttra Heilyn (the well near Heylin's road). —This spring and well is about three miles from the

village in the direction of Dolanog, and a small field's-breadth from the road. The water gushes out from the ground in a strong spring, and is very cold. In the summer time a misty vapour hangs over the water. The well is much used for bathing, especially in summer and harvest time by the people in the vicinity, for rheumatic and other ailments, and workmen at the close of a day's mowing and reaping use it as a bath to refresh their aching limbs. The water drawn at the "eye of the well", and drunk, is used as a cure for indigestion.

Ffynon Fair (St. Mary's Well).—This is a spring and well near the church. It was a holy well and under the guardianship of the Virgin. Its water was used for the sacred uses of the Church, as in the font for baptism, etc., and in years gone by it was held in great repute for its curative properties, especially as a bath for rheumatic complaints and cutaneous disorders. It was formerly held also to have talismanic properties as a protective against curses, witchcraft, and other evils of life. But what was the superstitious cantrap necessary to be used to make it efficacious is not now known.

Ffynon Madock.—There are here four springs, and their medicinal properties were discovered by a person of the name of Madock in the year 1824. He observed that the waters were strongly impregnated by minerals. Tests were applied, the result showing that there was sulphur present in one spring, and another close by had chalybeate properties, and a third was saline. Attempts have been made to make the place attractive as a health-restoring locality, and considerable expense has been entailed in the erection of two pumps and other appliances and conveniences for those who would resort hither. As soon as their value was made known, the place became largely visited by invalids, who sometimes drank the wells dry; that was before the sinkings and pumps were made. The waters are still in good

repute, and many persons go there to drink them. But the great drawback is the want of good roads, all of them being very bad. The place is about three miles from Llanfair, in the direction of Manafon. With better roads and accommodation the waters would, it is believed, stand in the same reputation as those of Llandrindod and Llanwrtyd in South Wales.

The Town.—The village or town of Llanfair stands on an ascent of ground on the banks of the river Banwy, and contains two principal streets, having also a new portion built on the other side of the river. It contains eleven public houses, and a fair proportion of shops. Its trade is wholly dependent on the surrounding district, which is entirely agricultural. Markets are held on Saturday, and fairs on the first Friday in every month. It boasts of a market hall, but little use is made of the building for trade purposes. It is now the property of Mr. Beck, who purchased it from the Earl of Powis, the lord of the manor, with all rights as to toll. There is a parochial library, established in the last century, on Dr. Bray's foundation. This fell into disuse for many years ; but, about fifteen years ago, efforts were made successfully to reopen it, increase the number of books, and make it more generally useful. Large additions of new and standard authors were made by gifts and purchase, and periodicals and newspapers have been added, Edwin Hilton, Esq., being a valuable contributor.

Population.—According to the Census Tables, the population was as follows :—

	Year.								
	1801.	1811.	1821.	1831.	1841.	1851.	1861.	1871.	1881.
Population ..	2,137	1,855	2,514	2,687	2,747	2,727	2,584	2,485	2,286

Further information is given in the last five censuses, viz. :—

Year.	Statute Acres.	Houses.			Population.		
		Inhabited.	Uninhabited.	Building.	Males.	Females.	Total Persons.
1841 ...	—	558	16	—	—	—	2,747
1851 ...	—	567	26	—	1,341	1,386	2,727
1861 ...	—	543	15	—	1,292	1,292	2,584
1871 ...	—	522	29	7	1,245	1,240	2,485
1881 ...	16,157	492	28	1	1,127	1,159	2,286

Thus there has been evident falling off in the population, the principal cause, perhaps, being the removal of the agricultural labouring population to other districts, owing to the decay of their dwellings, and no new houses being erected. Within the space of a mile and a half square the writer has counted sixteen houses in ruins.

Roads.—The Town is situated on the main high road which leads through Welshpool to the western district of the county; and before the opening of the Cambrian Railway, this road was a most busy thoroughfare. It traverses the parish in its length, and was one of the two main highways running through Montgomeryshire, and the chief mail route to Aberystwith, and the Welsh coast; and the principal posting, coaching, and carriers' road to Machynlleth, Towyn, and Aberystwith, and to Dolgelley and Barmouth, branching off to Mallwyd, through Dinas Mowddy. When the Cambrian Railway opened, the through traffic dropped off at once; and since that Llanfair has dropped behind other places in the county, and has kept up a struggling conflict of communication with the outside districts and towns of England. Three omnibuses run daily to the Cambrian Railway Station at Welshpool, which are insufficient. The distance is eight miles. Many efforts have been made, and much money has been expended in preliminary expenses, to get a short railroad made to connect the village with the Welshpool station, but up to the present time every scheme has dropped through, and every effort has failed.

STATISTICAL.—*Owners of Property.*—The soil of the parish up to a late period, say about thirty years ago, was owned by a few large proprietors—gentlemen of old family connections in the district, but since which time a considerable diversion has taken place. Sir W. W. Wynn, Baronet, having decided to sell some of his outlying lands, gave the first refusal to the tenants of their several holdings, and nearly the whole of them purchased the freeholds. The estate of Melinygrûg (the old patrimony of Morgan Edwards) was put up to sale by Charles Jones, Esq., his descendant, its then owner. This property was purchased by strangers, and went through several hands. Brynglas, once the estate of the Devereux family, and the finest estate and house hereabout, has passed from that family. A tradition, in connection with the great grandfather of the last Mr. Pryce Devereux, who occupied and owned it, is told among the "ghost stories".

The leading gentry and principal owners of property in the parish at the present time are Charles Lloyd Jones, Esq., of Garthilwyd, a son of Mr. Frederick Lloyd Jones, and a descendant of the family of "Madame Lloyd" of the Garth, and of the Bromleys of Hanwood; his brother, Frederick Bromley Jones, Esq., of the Pentre; John Jones, Esq., of the Gwyndu; Edwin Hilton, Esq., Glynhiriaeth and Manchester; David Clarke, Esq., Macclesfield; John Lockett, Esq., Congleton; Mrs. Pickmere; Mrs. Sagar of Manchester; David Howell, Esq., of Brynglas and Machynlleth.

It, perhaps, may not be out of place here to notice that there lives now an old tenant at Tanyfoel farm, Mr. Thomas Gittins, who is in his 85th year, whose ancestors have occupied that farm for several centuries in unbroken line. Mr. Gittins remembers, when a boy, seeing a rent book of very old date in the house, in which the receipts for rent were entered, the entries going back to several generations of his family. It was taken away, he says, to Powis Castle.

The following statistics of farms of twenty acres and above are gleaned from the rate-book :—

Owner.	Tenant.	Name.	Extent.			Rateable Value.	
			A.	R.	P.	£	s.
Mrs. Pickmore ...	Mrs. Jones	Mount	92	0	18	102	10
Mrs. P. B. Williams	Thomas Jones	Graig	301	3	5	162	0
„	David Thomas	Rhosfawr	114	2	20	76	0
Mrs. Beck	J. Vaug. Jones	Camdden	21	0	0	25	5
„	Hugh Francis	Rhosfawr	73	0	18	51	10
„	David Evans ..	Fron	21	3	29	14	0
„	Widow Davies	Gaer[1]	15	3	6	10	15
„	Thomas Evans	Pentrecoed	25	0	0	20	11
„	William Baxter	Bonyfedwen	41	1	7	25	0
„	Thos. Bourne...	Troedyrewig	23	0	0	11	0
„	Jane Ellis ...	Bwlchcoch[2]	17	0	35	9	15
„	Geo. Horrobin	Pantlanhouse	77	1	3	61	12
„	Richard Jones	Ty Evan Rhys		...		19	10
Samuel Evans ...	Mrs. Evans ...	Black Lion	20	0	13	45	0
Edwin Hilton.....	— Jones	Tanygraig.....	57	3	4	40	10
„	„	Glynhiriaeth.....	23	1	9	40	10
„	„	Rhiwhiriaeth ganol	264	1	9	224	0
„	A. Morgan	Rhiwhiriaeth	215	0	31	160	0
„	— Breeze ...	Tynypant	42	3	34	30	0
„	J. Evans	Tynewydd...	51	2	27	41	0
„	„	Cilhaul	23	0	34	23	15
„	R. Evans	Cwm Llwynog	254	2	18	156	10
„	T. Ridge.....	Rhosaflo.....	95	3	32	58	10
R. J. Harrison ...	— Jones.....	Brynglas Hall	101	0	12	90	0
— Lloyd	„	Tyddyn	74	0	24	47	0
— Morris.....	D. Jones ...	Bryndu	45	1	20	37	15
Lockett & Sagar	C. Jones.....	Tynygerddi	53	3	15	45	0
R. J. Harrison ...	E. Jones.....	Pentre	144	3	23	39	5
„	R. Jones (Richards)	Llanoddian	126	0	29	79	0
„	— Richards ...	Llanoddian issa ...	227	0	33	130	5
„	— Griffith	Neuodd Ucha	130	3	16	113	10
„	— Richards ...	Neuodd Llwyd.....	158	3	27	113	10
Rev. Jeffy. Jones, Vicar	.....	Graigwen	78	2	38	43	0
W. Chippindale...	G. Astley	Melinddol	14	0	21	45	0
E. Watkins.....	„	Pantgwyn	91	1	14	88	15
J. Morgan	„	Wern	108	3	32	70	0
E. Jones	„	Glanbanu	91	1	1	72	0
E. Jehu	— Jones	Neuoedd.....	99	1	16	88	5
W. Thomas.....	„	Belan	39	2	21	22	10
J. Jones	„	Tynyfron	33	2	28	21	15
O. Jones	„	Gelly	179	1	17	104	10
— Davies	D. Davies	Coedcaed'd	33	3	17	21	10
W. Evans	„	Voel	71	1	8	28	10
P. Elwell.....	„	Dolefardyn	186	0	25	27	5
J. Jones	E. Davies	Tanyfoel	36	0	4	25	5
„	— Nulling.....	Gwynyndu	37	3	2	31	0

[1] Gaer, old fortress or encampment.

[2] Red Hollow, by Moel Pentyrch, where a bloody contest, it is said, took place between the Irish and Welsh.

Owner.	Tenant.	Name.	Extent.			Rateable Value.	
			A.	R.	P.	£	s.
M. Evans	J. Jones	Gwaenynog	125	0	39	72	0
,,	,,	Bronygarth	56	3	1	44	5
David Clark	A. Wood.....	Allt Ucha	47	0	0	45	0
,,	T. Bebb	Allt Issa.....	140	2	30	113	10
,,	J. Thomas ...	Maesygtydfa.....	58	2	31	40	10
,,	D. Williams ...	Penyrwtra.....	73	3	37	40	10
Ann Watkins.....	,,	Rhosygweision.....	28	1	35	28	15
J. Lockett	T. Shaw.....	Hendre	96	0	27	90	0
,,	A Bebt	Cefndre	126	1	12	101	15
E. Evans.....	,,	Garthheilin	80	3	33	48	10
,,	— Morris	Moeldrehaiarn	177	1	3	75	15
,,		Penycreigiau	56	1	27	24	5
John Nicklin	— Bowen	Dolgead issa	75	0	30	54	0
Henry Sagar		Glyndwr & Lletty..	123	3	17	67	0
,,		Nantycae Ucha.....	43	0	36	33	10
,,		Llettygwilym issa..	119	0	12	63	0
,,		,, ucha.	73	2	10	33	5
,,	S. Jones.....	Llettyr milwr	18	0	4	6	0
,,	....	Penygelli	53	0	19	34	5
,,	,,	Hirros Hall	73	2	18	45	0
,,	,,	Caelili.....	27	0	14	10	0
,,	,,	Hirros issa.....	26	3	19	14	10
,,	,,	Hirros ucha	121	0	35	38	15
,,	J. Griffiths.....	Melinygrug	225	1	35	108	0
,,	,,	Penyrheugal.....	27	0	33	12	15
,,	J. Astley.....	Cefngole.....	76	2	33	36	10
,,	,,	Pentyrch	62	1	28	48	15
,,	E. Griffiths.....	Ceunant.....	46	3	23	31	10
,,	Ed. Griffiths ...	Hirros & Lletty ...	238	3	37	63	15
,,	W. Thomas ...	Gellygethin	151	0	31	36	0
,,	J. Humphreys	Tynybryn	113	3	0	28	15
,,	W. Rogers ...	Glaslyn	73	3	14	31	10
C. Ll. Jones	J. Jones.....	Penybryn	65	3	36	40	0
F. B. Jones.....	,,	Pentre canol.....	22	1	25	20	10
,,	,,	Pentre issa	68	0	5	53	10
,,	,,	Pentre-Dolgeod ...	38	2	20	45	0
David Evans	A. Jones...	Pentre ucha	32	0	28	27	10
G. Burgess.....	— Thornley ...	Tirdu & Caerclai ...	125	2	5	72	0
J. B. Williams ...	.....	Glanyllyn	48	1	26	24	5
Earl of Powis.....	J. Thomas...	Tynyrhyd	53	3	26	30	10
,,	R. Jones..... ..	Tanyllan	19	2	12	28	15
J. Jehu	,,	Dolgoch	1	1	24	23	0
W. Chippendale		Tycoch	81	0	22	52	5
John Watkin.....	John Jones ..	Tynypwll	28	3	14	23	10
Mrs. P. B. Williams	Mr. Sam. Nokes	Byrwydd	51	3	39	24	0
John Jehu	John Jehu	Yewtree	28	0	13	18	0
Mrs. Edgworth ...	Thos. Jones ...	Byrwydd	38	0	2	7	15
Rector of Tregynon	Rich. Jones ...	Carreg Arthur	20	1	16	6	15
John Robertson...	,,	Brynelen	133	0	3	97	5
William Jones ...	Morgan Jones	Brynelenissa.....	55	0	15	49	10
,,	Thos Jones ...	Brynelenganol	26	1	11	26	0
R. D. Gough	R. D. Gough ...	Aethnog[1]	135	3	34	117	0
,,	W. Morgan ...	Brynypistill	135	2	26	130	10

[1] Aethnog, Eithinog.

Owner.	Tenant.	Name.	Extent.			Rateable Value.	
			A.	R.	P.	£	s.
John Lloyd...	John Lloyd ...	Minffordd	40	2	25	51	10
A. Humphreys ..	,,	Penyrhiw	69	0	3	35	0
David Howell, ... Machynlleth		Plas Iolyn[1]	138	3	38	72	0
,,	G. Astley ...	Caerwedyn	95	0	28	63	0
,,	G. Davies	Aduywynt.....	77	0	7	54	0
,,	,,	Tyddyn	70	0	18	36	0
Late Geo. Burgess	John Davies ...	Penyllan	80	3	22	46	15
R. J. Harrison ...	David Davies	Wttrawen	43	0	33	36	0
Late G. Burgess	Mrs. Burgess...	Brynpenarth.....	16	2	31	18	0
,,	John Emberton	Croesdy	24	2	9	16	10
,,	,,	Brynmawr.....	81	1	36	54	0
,,	Jos. Emberton.	Brynrhyg	77	3	35	72	0
Trustees of Berriew School	Evan Jones ...	Penarth.....	143	3	23	78	5
D. Howell	D. Howell	Brynglas	99	3	18	95	10
,,	Evan Jones ...	Hengefn	58	3	10	35	15
,,	— Gough	Wenallt	80	3	39	46	15
,,	Edward Morris	Fronfach	33	0	11	46	15
,,	Richd. Jones...	Pantglas	107	0	27	33	0
Ch. Evans	— Jones.....	Heniarth	91	3	15	81	10
Chas. E. Ellison ..	— Bowen	Penybryn	78	2	27	55	15
R. Jones	,,	Tanyllan	38	2	3	35	10
R. D. Gough	R. Jones.....	Dolrhyd'd	19	2	12	28	15
Sir Watkin William Wynn, Bart.	Maurice Davies	Goat Hotel	34	0	35	59	0
H. Edwin Hughes	,,	Foxes' Hotel.....	18	2	5	59	0
Charles Law ...	John Jones ...	Pencraig	41	2	15	32	10
Mrs. Lloyd	— Morgan.....	Ystrad	55	2	18	37	0
Mrs. Nicklin	Mrs. Hopkin...	Ystrad	73	2	7	51	10
C. W. Woosnam	— Edwards ...	Nantycae	86	2	13	48	10
George Slater ..	Ben. Lea	Pantymilwr[2]	80	2	6	22	10
D. Jones	,,	Tyissa.	37	0	9	24	5
Thomas Williams	,,	Caegarw.....	69	2	1	16	10
Alfred Davies ...	,,	Tynyfawnog	59	2	15	49	5
Jane Edgworth		Cross	76	0	3	49	10
J. Stevens	— Rees	Rhiwhir'th.....	73	1	10	49	10
,,	John Emberton	Tynyllwyn.....	60	0	38	22	10
,,	,,	Tycoch	53	0	35	28	5
J. V. Jones	,,	Bryntirion	55	3	25	41	10
Wm. Chippindale	,,	Tycoch	81	0	22	52	5
Mr. Pryce ...	Thos. Leach ...	Rhosfawr	51	3	27	33	0
Alfred Hughes ...	,,	Penrhwnin.....	19	3	4	18	0
Mrs. Rowsham	John Jehu	Ysguboryshop	26	0	10	24	5
Ezra Millward ...	Evan Jones ...	Penycoed	74	3	33	53	0
C. Lloyd Jones	John Theodore	Gellygasson	137	1	25	126	0
,,	R. Davies	Berthfawr	118	3	16	81	0
,,	D. Ridge.....	Caenymynydd	73	2	15	54	0
,,	,,	Tynyrhos	46	1	37	31	0

[1] Iolyn's mansion or hall.

[2] Pantymilwyn, where tradition says that 1000 soldiers were entertained with lunch; but more likely to be an old Roman encampment.

Owner.	Tenant.	Name.	Extent.			Rateable Value.	
			A.	R.	P.	£	s.
F. Lloyd Jones...	H. Theodore...	Erwenith	59	3	1	34	5
,,	,,	Brynglas	69	1	10	45	0
,,	Edwd. Evans ...	Tynyrhos ucha.....	30	0	27	20	15
,,	— Davies	Rhydaruydd.....	24	2	21	20	15
,,	Mrs. Jones.....	Tynycaemawr	22	0	25	18	0
,,	Thos. Jones ...	Dolgead ucha	75	2	32	58	10
,,	John Jones ..	Llanoddian issa ...	115	1	33	70	0
,,	— Jos. Evans...	Garth Lloyd..... ...	37	1	33	47	15
,,	F. B. Jones ...	Cefndre	62	0	3	46	0
,,	— Theodore ...	Gro.....	113	3	38	108	0

II.—Ecclesiastical.

The church was dedicated to the Virgin Mary on the festival of her Assumption, and not, so far as is known, to any Welsh saint. Its foundation, therefore, may be inferred to be later than the churches of some of the surrounding parishes.

In 1239, Hugh, Bishop of St. Asaph, by a charter of that date, which is printed in the *Montgomeryshire Collections* (vol. ii, p. 307), with the consent of his chapter, granted all those portions (of the church) of St. Mary of Kereynion which belonged to the sons of Sulyen and that portion which was of Mururan, the son of Moraoc, "except that which belongs to us as Rector (*Perieglorie*t) of Meyvot," moreover, the residue of the church when it shall be vacated, "to God and the Church of Llanllugan, and the nuns serving God there, in pure and perpetual alms."

The portions granted by the Bishop, viz., those which *had* belonged to the sons of Sulyen, and the portion of Mururan, the son Moraoc, were distinct from that which belonged to the Bishop as *Perieglorie*t of Meyvot, and also from the "residue" when it became vacant; there were therefore four different ownerships in the living which the Bishop assumed to grant to the Nunnery of Llanllugan. This is an illustration of the evil Giraldus complains of when he says, that the Welsh Churches "have almost as many parsons and

parties as there are principal families in the parish ; the sons after the death of their fathers succeeded to the Ecclesiastical benefice, not by election, but by hereditary right possessing and polluting the Sanctuary of God."

It has been inferred that "originally this parish was an outlying portion of the wide district comprehended under Meifod as the Mother Church," because in this grant mention is made of certain rights, which are distinctly reserved to him, Bishop Hugh, as "Rector of Meifod."

It is possible that this may have been the case ; but the supremacy of Meifod, to whatever degree it existed, may be accounted for on another hypothesis. The rectors may have encroached upon their neighbour's rights, and have usurped the share of the Rectory. Ecclesiastical ambition may have been the root of the evil existing in Llanfair Caereinion as well as other parishes abutting on the parish of Meifod. The title of Meifod to the supremacy in this parish, as well as elsewhere, has yet to be proved before it can be admitted. It is to be noted that in Pope Nicholas's Taxation in 1291, the appropriation by Meifod, mentioned in the grant of 1239, is not named, from which it may be inferred that it did not then exist.

In that Taxation, Llanfair Caereinion appears under the deanery of " Kereynon", thus :—

"Ecclesia de Lanveyr taxat	Rectoria £12 . . .	£1	4	0
„ „	Vicaria 5 . . .	0	6	0"

In the *Valor Ecclesiasticus* of 26 Henry VIII, the rectory is returned under " Domus Mon'aliu de Llanllugan", thus :—

" Rectoria de Llanv'y in Decanat' de Kydewyn val. in vii^{xx}, bz' farine avenar [7 score bushells of oatmeal] vij*li.*

" In lana xiii*s.* iiijd agnis xiij*s.* et oblacion' v*s.* ad fest' Pasche coibz annis xxxv*s.* iiij*d.*" . . . xiij*li.* .vij*s.* vij*d.*

The vicarage is returned under the deanery of " Pola and Carynyon" (as the rectory should have been, in-

stead of "Kedewyn", in which deanery Llanllugan was situated, and probably hence the mistake), thus :—

"Vicar' de Llanvaire.

"Valet clare coib' annis p'scrutineu et examiac' commission', etc., xl.

"Inde p'x'ma p'te d'no Regi debit, xx*s*."

On the dissolution of the Nunnery of Llanllugan, the rectorial tithes were unappropriated, and descended in two moieties by inheritance and purchase to Sir William Williams, and Mr. Myddelton of Chirk Castle, in 1738 ; and in 1800 they were held respectively by Sir Watkin Williams Wynn, Bart., and Mr. Myddelton and Mr. Humphreys of Llwyn.[1] Of these moieties the one held by Sir W. W. Wynn, commuted at £275 7*s.* 6*d.*, has been given up by him for the endowment respectively of Llwydiarth, £130 2*s.*, and of Rhos y Medre, £144 16*s.* The other moiety is now held by Mr. J. M. E. Jones, and amounts to £304 13*s.* 6*d.*

The vicarial tithes were commuted at £314 5*s.*, and arise from the townships of Peniarth, Gelligason, and Heniarth. The parish clerk has also a rent charge of £15.

A benefaction of £200 by the Rev. Dr. Millington, was met by an equal grant from Queen Anne's bounty in 1738, and the whole invested in 1742 in the purchase of Craigwen farm, which (including an allotment under the enclosure Act), contains 93 acres of land. Attached to the vicarage are also 14 acres of glebe land.

The Bishop of St. Asaph is the patron of the living.

The Church.—The old church was taken down and rebuilt in 1868, with the exception of the curious old wooden steeple, which still remains, and is characteristic of the older Montgomeryshire churches, and the doorway in the south porch.

The form of the old church was a long and undivided chancel and nave, with a north aisle to the chancel, and part of the nave, a western belfry in two stories, and a south porch, the doorway with its carved capitals.

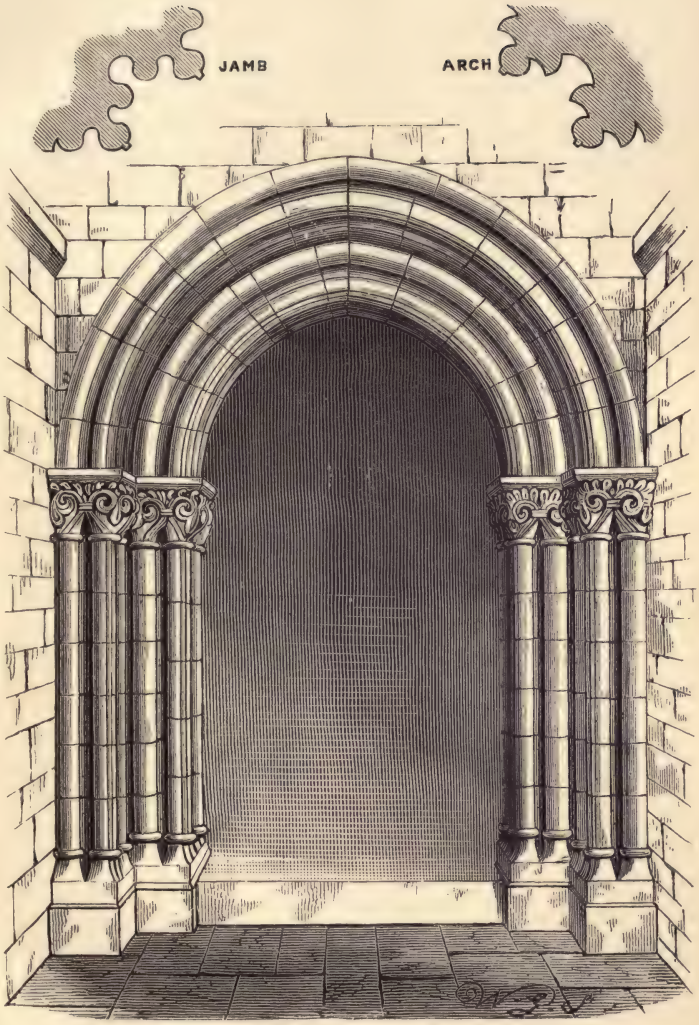
[1] Thomas's *History of the Diocese of St. Asaph*, p. 753.

We are enabled to reproduce the illustration of this doorway, which appeared in the *Archæologia Cambrensis* for 1880, p. 145. It is there stated :—

"This doorway is apparently the original one, and not rebuilt stone for stone. Canon Thomas, in his *History of St. Asaph*, considers the capitals Early Decorated work, but the other members are of the same date as the capitals, which may perhaps be called Late Transitional. The wooden steeple is of local character and unusually plain and rude as compared with other wooden steeples, many of which have been figured and described in the *Archæologia Cambrensis*. The roofs of the nave and chancel have been spared, but beyond these exceptions the building is uninteresting in the extreme."

The fabric of the old church had gone into a state of decay ; its sittings were old-fashioned, irregular, and heavy, and of a make-shift kind. The walls showed that they had been patched up at different times, without skill or architectural taste; for ancient carved stones were thrown into the masonry in several places as common stone. The old church was taken down and the present building erected in 1868 ; but the old steeple remains intact and stands out in great contrast to the new building.

The son of a former vicar (Rev. E. Pugh) states in a letter that "his father found the old church in a deplorable state, pews of all sizes, those for the wealthy parishioners comfortably lined with red or green baize; but many of the poor with straw for the feet and strongly suggestive of *pigsties!* Before many years had passed, he made an effort to have the church restored ; but when the architect inspected it, he pronounced that there was nothing worthy of preservation in the fabric itself, and consequently, at a vestry meeting, it was proposed by Mr. F. Lloyd Jones of Garthllwyd, and seconded by Mr. E. Hilton of Glynhiriaeth, and carried unanimously, that instead of a restoration of the old church, a new one should be erected on its site." He adds :—"The old church was a miserable building, without any architectural features



DOORWAY, LLANFAIR CAEREINION CHURCH.

of beauty; possibly, once a fine church had stood there, as nearly a waggon-load of beautifully carved stones were found in the walls and around the windows."

In 1868 the new church was completed from the plans of Mr. Edward Haycock of Shrewsbury; and from the passage above quoted from the *Archæologia Cambrensis*, the Welsh antiquaries present at the Cambrian Archæological meeting in 1879 did not think the architect had succeeded in making the new church an interesting building. It, however, has followed closely the old ground plan, and has retained the old steeple, the south door, and open oak roof for the chancel and nave, that of the aisle and vestry at the east end being new. The chancel is partly floored with encaustic tiles, and is divided from the nave by a low screen. It had a reredos of majolica and other tiles; but the back of the chancel has recently been partially covered by a piece of zinc, painted with bright colours, which detracts much from its appearance. A sedile or seat has been formed by the deepening of the south chancel windows. The pulpit adjoins the south wall, and has inlaid marble panels. The ancient font is a massive octagonal one on a circular base, and bears marks of being chiselled.

The church cost about £1,900,[1] exclusive of the following special gifts:—"The Communion plate, presented by Mr. Greves; carved altar chair by Mr. E. Hilton; service books by Mrs. Hilton and family; and cloth for communion table by Mrs. Jenkins. Also a stained window on the south wall of a diaper pattern, the gift of Mr. Edwin Hilton. Another stained glass window in the south wall, erected by public subscription of the parishioners, by Clayton and Bell of London, the subject being "The Twelve Apostles, each with his accredited section of the creed," and inscribed "In memory of the Rev. Enoch Pugh, B.D., late vicar of the parish, who died June 18, 1868."

The church-wall was rebuilt; one portion, from the

[1] Nearly £1,200 has been promised towards the erection of a new Tower.

clerk's house to the lych-gate, at the expense of Mr. E. Hilton, the other portion by public subscription. In the year 1879 the east window was filled with stained glass by Ward and Hughes of Soho Square, the subjects being as follows :—"The Ascension", "Christ the Consoler", and "The Angel and Women at the Tomb." This memorial window was erected by Mrs. Isabella Jane Howell, the wife of Mr. David Howell of Dolguog, Machynlleth, and of Brynglas, in memory of her uncle, Major Joseph Davies of Brynglas. It bears the following inscription :—

"To the Glory of God and in affectionate remembrance of Major Joseph Davies of Brynglas, J.P., formerly of H.M. 46th Regiment, who died February 19th, 1879, aged 77. Dedicated by his niece Isabella Jane Howell."

Monumental Effigy.—On the sill of a window on the south side of the old church, formerly lay a sepulchral effigy, carved in marble, of a recumbent knight. It has been removed to the south side of the chancel. It has been figured in two positions in the *Montgomeryshire Collections*, vol. x, p. 133, where also detailed and technical descriptions of it by high authorities, Mr. Matthew Holbeche Bloxam, F.S.A., and the late Rev. C. Boutell, M.A., are given. It is considered unnecessary here more than to refer to these detailed descriptions. Mr. Bloxam considers the effigy to be of the latter part of the fourteenth century, A.D. 1370-1390. Rev. C. Boutell assigns it to about 1405, certainly not earlier than the first year of the fifteenth century.

There is a unique feature connected with it. It has an inscription on the belt or band extending around the figure. This inscription is not easily legible. The Rev. Canon D. R. Thomas, vicar of Meifod, has taken much pains to decipher it, and after many inspections, in June 1883, viewing it under a specially favourable light, he came to the conclusion that the true reading of the inscription is as follows :—

"*Hic jacet Davit ap Gruff* : [ ] *an.*"

The last two letters, which he had previously read "ain", he has concluded are only "an" in Lombardic

characters. The space or blank between the square brackets before "an" Mr. Thomas would supply with "Vych", and we think he can show that he has a fair warrant for so doing, when we shall in a subsequent part of this paper endeavour to identify the knight represented by the effigy with a member of a local family.

The chevron on the jupon of the effigy, and which it is natural to infer is the armorial insignia of the knight represented, is one of the links of the identification which has yet to be investigated.

Monumental Inscriptions.—The three following inscriptions were copied some years ago, and were lately removed from the church. On the Churchwardens' seat—

Y lle ymma a wnaethpwyd i'r Wardeinieid i eistedd ag arian adawodd Yonu (John) Cawmon at Waith yr Eglwys 1634.

("This place was made for the wardens to sit in with money which John (the) Cowman left for the use of the Church, 1634.")

Small brass plate in window (east of north aisle)—

Hic infra Jacent Reliquiæ David Jones de Bringlase, qui defunctus hâc vita decimo sexto die Aprilis, 1705. Anno ætatis suæ 85.

Τῇ Ζαγκλῃ Θάνατος των Θνητων πᾶν γενος (ccμα).

Small brass plate, inside of same window—

Hic infra jacient reliquiæ Oliueri Jones qui ab hac uita migraut decimo primo die Aprillis et Anno 1712, ætatis suæ 87 + cuius pater Johannes D'd ap Reynald de Bringlace, hic infra sepult'anno 1664, + uixit 84, Et cuius uxor Elisabetha filia Watkini ap Oliver de Keuen Y llus (Cefnyllys) sepulta in sede sua ecclesia parochiali 1676, Et illa etiam uixit circiter 84.

This was written in the year 1712, by L. + E. + for O. + I. +

Monumental Inscriptions in the Church.—Marble tablet (west end)—

Sacred to the memory of Maurice Lloyd, late of Garthllwyd, Esqr. His benevolent heart, his affable and social manners, his patriotism and public activity, when living, justly endear'd him to all. When he died! His family, friends, and neighbours deeply lamented his loss! the public felt it severely! Ripe for heaven!

His Maker called him hence! Feb'ry 27th, in the year of our Lord, 1813, and in the 67th year of his age.

"Go and do thou likewise."

This monument is erected by his disconsolate widow in testimony of her love. Arms—*Sable*, three...courant *or*.

Marble monumental tablet—

Here rests the remains of MORGAN EVANS of Berth Vawr, in the county of Montgomery, gent., who departed this life the 4th June 1744, aged 35 years.

Also, CATHERINE his wife, daughter of Evan Davies, of Garth Llwyd, gent., and granddaughter of Daniel Owen of Garth, Esq., near Llanidloes, in the said county, who died the 4th of Feb'ry 1777, aged 66 years.

Smooth flow'd the gentle current of their days,
They fear'd no censure, nor they sought no praise.

Likewise ELIZABETH LLOYD of Garthllwyd, daughter of the above, and relict of Maurice Lloyd, Esq., who departed this life the 2nd February 1833, aged 90 years.

Small tablet in north aisle—

Near this place lie the remains of the Rev. THOMAS BAKER, late vicar of this parish, who departed this life June 8th, 1797, aged 62 years.

Monument on west wall (north aisle)—

In a vault near this place lie the remains of DAVID DAVIS, who died at Cheltenham, in the county of Gloucester, the 17th of Nov. 1790, in the 79th year of his age. He left by his Will twenty pound to the poor of this parish, and directed that sixpence should be given to every poor person attending his funeral, at which one thousand and thirty were present, and received sixpence each. Nelson, Salop.

Small tablet, north wall—

Sacred to the memory of GWEN, wife of Griffith Jones, tanner, of this town, died 21st July 1772, aged 44 years. Also her daughter, LOWRY JONES, aged 11 weeks.

North wall.—Mural monument in north aisle (now west end)—

This monument is erected to the memory of EVAN GWYN, Esq., of Llanfair, in the county of Montgomery, who died the 13th July 1767, aged 42 years. Also of MARY his wife, who departed this life 14th May 1785, aged 54.

"Accept these tears, mortality's relief,
And till I share your joys forgive my grief.
These little rites a stone a verse receive,
'Tis all a daughter, all a friend can give."

Mural monument (east end)—

Arms—*Ar.*, a lion *sa.*, between 3 fleurs-de-lis, *gu.* Impaling *Ar.*, a cross croslet between 4 mullets *sa.*, on a chief *az.*, a boar's head, *ar.*, with a crescent for a difference.

Near this place repose the remains of ELIZA LOUISA VAUGHAN, eldest daughter of Lewis Vaughan of Penmaen, in the county of Merioneth, Esq. At the command of its Creator, her spirit quitted the frail tenement, which for the short space of 16 years had been its residence, on the 24th May 1805.

Reader! Imitate her, who (after passing a few years in perfect innocence in this vale of tears, some of the last embittered by a painful illness which she bore with a fortitude beyond her years) is now translated into the presence of that Divine Being from whom she first proceeded. As a last tribute of affection to the memory of their departed daughter, this marble is placed here by her afflicted parents, Lewis and Elizabeth Vaughan. Let us emulate thy virtues, dear Shade, and hereafter we shall meet again.—H. J. W.

Another monument underneath—

In memory of JOHN, son of John Williams by Mary, his wife, who died 25 February 1786, aged 10 years. Also MARY, wife of John Williams, who died 7 June 1829, aged 74 years. And also of JOHN WILLIAMS, who died 28 April 1836, aged 83 years.

A small brass plate in seat—

Here lyeth Ye body of JAMES FELTON, aged 7; also ye body of JOHN FELTON, aged 3, who departed this life ano domoni 1736. Also ye body of JAMES FELTON, who departed this life 1738, sons of Thomas Felton, Llanfer.—Engraved by Edd. Pugh, Oswestry.

Another—

BRIDGET, the wif of DAUD IONS of Tun y Pant, was intrered the 14th day of December 1737, aged 57. Moreover at the right side lieth the body of MARY, the daughter of John Edwards of Llanfer, who departed this lif ye 16th day of July, aged 2 years and 5 months.

Old mural monument—

In memory of JANE HASSALL, who died 16 January 1778, aged 4 years. Also JANE HASSALL, died 24 December 1781, aged 2 years. Also THOMAS HASSALL, died 13 January 1786, aged 2 years.

Monumental inscription in churchyard—

Sacred to the memory of ANN, wife of Richard Morgan and daughter of Richard and Martha Richards of the Boot Inn in this town. She departed this life December 10, 1860, aged 28 years.

Twenty-six years I was a maid,
And two years I was a wife,
Two hours I was a mother,
And then I lost my life.

Tablet above the vestry door—

A.D. 1742.—This Vicarage of Llanvair Caereinion was augmented with Lands purchased for £400, whereof were given by Queen Anne's Bounty, £200; the Rev. Dr. Millington, £200.

On the reverse of the Felton inscription, page 355—

N. Glyntrefnant in Trefeglwys parish to be payd upon eurey 25th of 9ber into ye hands of ye churchwardens of Machynlleth to be by them and ye Rector of yt parish for ye tyme beinge yearely distributed upon evrey 21st of December amongst ye poorest of ye towne and parish of Machynlleth aforesd. for ever.

Engraved by . . . .

The Bells.—There are three very sweet-toned bells. They bear the following inscriptions:—

1. *Sancte Petre ora pro nobis* (no date), in ornamental Lombardic characters.

2. *Gloria in Excelsus Deo, M.E.I.T., C.W.*, 1658; (the *u* is simply a workman's mis-spelling).

3. *David Howell, Thomas Davies, Churchwardens,* 1776. The first-named bell probably came from some other church, unless this church was in the first instance dedicated to St. Peter, which is not probable.

4. A small bell is mentioned in the Terrier of 1856 as being the gift of Mr. Devereux of Brynglas.

Registers.—The following is a list of the Registers:—

Vol.	I.	Baptisms, Burials, Marriages,	from	1602 to 1622
	II.	„ „ „	„	1624 „ 1676
	III.	„ „ „	„	1680 „ 1688
	IV.	„ „ „	„	1689 „ 1702
	V.	„ „ „	„	1723 „ 1747
	VI.	„ „ „	„	1748 „ 1772
	VII.	Marriages - -	„	1754 „ 1778
	VIII.	Baptisms, Burials -	„	1773 „ 1802

IX.	Marriages - - -	from 1778 to 1812	
X.	„ - - -	„ 1813 „ 1837	
XI.	„ - - -	„ 1837 „ present time.	
XII.	Burials - - -	„ 1803 „ 1812	
XIII.	„ - - -	„ 1813 „ 1850	
XIV.	„ - - -	„ 1850 „ 1873	
XV.	„ - - -	„ 1873 „ present time.	
XVI.	Baptisms - - -	„ 1813 „ „	

Communion Plate consists of the following:—1, Silver Chalice, no inscription; 2, Small Silver Chalices, inscription, "Mrs. Lewis's gift to Llanfair parish"; 3, Chalice, plated; 4, Patens, plated; 5, Flagon, inscription, "Llanfair Caereinion Parish Church, presented by Mrs. Greves, Bryn Penarth, Aug. 1868."

The painted reredos was the gift of Mrs. Pickmere, The Mount, Llanfair.

CHARITABLE BENEFACTIONS.—*Edwards' and Davies's Charity.*—William and Mary Edwards, and Elizabeth Davies, jointly gave by deed, bearing date 14th September 1685, forty shillings a year for ever, to issue out of a farm called Derwleg, in the township of Rhiwhirieth, in this parish, towards teaching ten poor children out of the said township to read, if so many be found there; if not, out of the parish in general.

James' Charity.—Evan James of Gelligasson, left by will, bearing date 1687, the interest of £50 for ever, towards apprenticing poor children out of the townships of Penarth and Gelligasson. The Charity Commissioners state, "This sum of money was lent by the parish in the year 1771 to the Trustees of the 3rd District of the Montgomeryshire Roads, but the bond has been lost or mislaid. The sum of £2 10*s.* is annually paid by Mr. Bibby of Llanfyllin to the Churchwardens, who apprentice one boy annually, selected from the poorest objects in the above townships. It was recommended, that if on further search the bond could not be found, application should be made for a new one at the next meeting of the Trustees of the above district."

Frongoch Charity.—Twenty shillings a year was left by an unknown donor to the poor of the parish for

ever, issuing out of the farm of Frongoch, in the parish of Llanfihangel.

Davies's Gifts.—A tablet in the church states that David Davies, Excise officer, who died in Cheltenham, November 17th, 1790, at the age of 79 years, left in his will £20, the interest of which was to be distributed annually to the poor of the parish. It also notes, that he directed that the sum of sixpence be given to every poor person attending his funeral, at which 1030 were present, and received sixpence each.

VICARS.—The following is a list of the Vicars of the parish.

1537. Edward Trevor.
1540. John Trevor.
[These two were brothers.]
1561. Thomas Salisbury.
1583. John Piers.
1592. Richard Brown.
1593. Hugh Davies.
1594. Jeffery Jones.
1617. John Hughes, A.M.
1620. William Jones.
1621. John Hughes.
1636. Richard Jones, A.M.
1669. David Eyton.
1690. Piers Hall.
1695. Thomas Jones, D.D.
1711 Thomas Williams.
1715. Lewis Price, A.M.
1720. Thomas Williams
1737. Richard Pryce (A.)
1744. Samuel Lloyd, B.A.
1753. Edward Lloyd, B.A.
1757. Owen Owens, M.A.
1765. Thomas Wynn.
1787. Thomas Baker.
1797. Evan Evans.
1800. Evan Lewis (B.)
1827. Daniel Williams.
1836. T. G. Moulsdale, M.A.
1856. Enoch Pughe, B.D. (C.)
1869. Edward Jones, M.A. (D.)
1877. T. Jeffrey Jones, M.A.

NOTES.—(A.) Richard Price, or Phrys, married Anne Clopton, heiress of Rhysnant, and was father of Walter Phrys, Esq., of Rhysnant, Sheriff of Montgomeryshire in 1775, and ancestor of Major Walter Clopton Wingfield of Rhysnant.

(B.) The Rev. Evan Lewis was the owner of Brynglas. He married, in 1802, Margaret, daughter of Matthew Jones, Esq., of Cyffronydd. He died in 1827, and was buried here; and according to an inscription on his gravestone, he was, when he died, the oldest magistrate in the county. He left an only son, Captain Matthew Evan Lewis, who married Elizabeth, daughter of Joseph Davies, Esq., Galltyllan. He died in 1842, leaving two daughters and co-heiresses, Elizabeth and Isabella Jane, now the wife of David Howell, Esq., of Dolguog, Machynlleth. His widow died in 1872.

(C.) The Rev. Enoch Pughe was a native of Llanfihangel y Croyddin, Cardiganshire, the son of Mr. Enoch Pughe of Cwmnewyddion

in that parish. He was educated at the celebrated school of Ystrad Meyrick, and from there went to St. David's College at Lampeter; and, in due course, graduated as Bachelor of Divinity. He was curate of Kerry parish, Dr. Oliphant, present Bishop of Llandaff, being vicar. He was in that curacy ten years, and from there was promoted to the vicarage of Abergwili, Caermarthenshire. After a residence there of sixteen years, he removed to Llanfair. His departure was the occasion of a presentation of a testimonial by the parishioners of Abergwili parish. The Bishop of St. David's, Dr. Thirlwall, in presenting the same, said, "When the living of Abergwili became vacant some years ago, after much thought and consideration, I was induced to offer it to you, not so much from personal knowledge of you, for I had only met you on two or three occasions, as for the high character I received of you from others, and I have never regretted the choice I made." It was by Mr. Pughe's persevering labour that the present new church was built; but he did not live to see the day of its opening. Being himself personally esteemed by the parishioners, without distinction of sect, he collected in the parish £900 towards the new erection, the Dissenters contributing liberally. He, by his good sense and large heart, broke down, in his time, the bonds of sect, and could be often seen walking the streets linking himself arm-in-arm with his dissenting fellow-labourers, the ministers of the Nonconformist denominations. After his death the parishioners subscribed to the erection of a stained glass window in the church to his memory.

(D.) The Rev. Edward Jones was a native of Llanrwst. He was educated at Jesus College, Oxford. He was a good Welsh scholar, and edited an edition of the works of Goronwy Owain. The introductory essay on the genius and life of Goronwy is said to be as fine and beautiful a piece of Welsh composition as can be found. He was a good preacher, and was promoted to the Vicarage of Llanrhaiadr-yn-Mochnant, where he died in 1881, after a short illness.

TERRIERS.—The following are copies of two Terriers dated in 1749 and 1856 respectively :—

A TERRIER of the glebe lands, house, and out-houses, and possessions belonging to the Vicarage and Impropriation of Llanfair, in the Deanery of Pool, and Diocese of St. Asaph, in the year one thousand seven hundred and forty-nine.

The Vicarage House belonging to the vicar of the parish of Llanfair Caereinion aforesaid is built with timber, and consists of a kitchen floored for the most part with bricks, the remainder with boards; one small lodging room adjoining to the kitchen; one passage or small hall leading to a parlour facing the south-east, and leads likewise to another small parlour towards the north-west, within which last-mentioned parlour are a small lodging-room and a study. The said hall, with the rooms and

study aforementioned, as well as the parlours, are floored with boards of oak and ash, and together with the kitchen are ceiled overhead. The large parlour has the chimney-piece, wainscotted with oak wood halfway or more to the top, and is hanged with painted paper and mat. The smaller parlour is hanged with painted paper. The passage or hall above mentioned leads likewise to a cellar and buttery; and from the kitchen is a door to a scullery and brewhouse. The rooms above stairs are—one lodging room over the kitchen, and two lodging rooms over the two parlours. The house is covered with a straw thatch. The out-houses are one barn built with timber, consisting of three bays, one stable with a hay tallot over it, one cowhouse with a bay between cowhouse and stable. The dimensions of the barn are above sixty-five feet from east to west, and about thirty-two feet from north to south; the covering is of straw.

The Glebe Lands are as follows:—One garden behind the house to the north-west; another garden to the front of the house, towards the south-east, beyond which lies a small orchard, bounded to the south and south-east by the high road.

The said gardens and orchard contain about half-an-acre of land, and are fenced with a thorn hedge. Adjoining to the orchard and one of the said gardens, and to the northward of both, lies one piece of pasture ground, called Cae Skibbor, containing in quantity about two acres and a half, abutting to the south-east upon the high road; to the northward upon a piece of ground belonging to Evan Gwynne, gentleman, commonly rented by the Vicars of this parish for twenty shillings per annum; the boundary to the north-west is the river Verniew. The next parcel of land is a piece of pasture ground, containing one full acre or more, called Yr Erw, between which and the said Cae Skibbor lies the high road above mentioned only, and bounded by another high road to the south east. To the south it abutteth upon certain gardens of the villagers; to the north upon a piece of land called Cae Llidiart, the property of the above mentioned Mr. Evan Gwynne. The next parcell of land is a piece of ground of about an acre, called Dolbutt, bounded for the most part by a small rivulet, and to the south-east by a piece of ground, called Erw deintir, the property of the Lords of Powis. The next parcel is one piece of land, partly arable and partly pasture ground, called Gortal, containing in quantity about four acres and a half, and is bounded in the whole circuit by the common and the river Verniew. The next parcel of land, called Erw'r Eglwys, lying and being in the Township of Brynelen, of one full acre or more, bounded to the westward by a small rivulet; to the

north-east by some lands, the property of Edward Lloyd, of Pant Glâs, in the parish of Guilsfield, gentleman; and to the south-east by a parcel of land, called Cae yn rhos, of the property of John Pryce, of Cyfronydd, Esquire, now in the occupation of his tenant, John Jervis.

The Vicarage of Llanfair was likewise endowed with the Queen's Bounty in the year one thousand seven hundred and forty-two. For the augmentation whereof two hundred pounds were contributed by Dr. Millington, and two hundred pounds by the Governors of Queen Anne's Bounty. The augmentation farm is called Graigwen, and is now sett by the Vicar for the yearly rent of twelve pounds ten shillings. The tithes due to the Vicar are as follow, viz., a certain share of the tithes of all the wool and lambs throughout the parish, in manner and proportion following, that is to say, five parts out of eighteen, both of wool and lambs, are due to the Vicar, the remaining thirteen parts to the Impropriators of the Tithes in equal portions. The same as to the Lactuals, which are paid in manner following, viz., for every milch cow, one penny. There is likewise due to the Vicar all the tithe-corn of the several townships of Pennarth, Gelligasson, and Heniarth. In lieu of tithe hay, is paid to the Vicar a composition or modus extending to every farm throughout the parish, that is to say, at the rate of one penny for every farm. The Easter dues likewise belong to the Vicar, which are paid according to the following proportion, viz., every married couple pay sixpence; every widower or widow threepence. Every single person of age to receive the Communion, one penny. Also every person who exercises any handicraft trade, pays fourpence for the same. The deductions from Easter dues are twelve shillings yearly paid by the Vicar to the Impropriators of the Tithes, who are two parties, one moiety of the said twelve shillings paid to each party respectively. Out of the Easter dues the minister pays likewise a sum of money to the parish clerk, in such proportion as shall be hereafter mentioned. There is likewise due to the Vicar from the above mentioned townships of Penarth, Gelligasson, and Heniarth, a certain portion of small tithes in form and manner following, viz., the tithe of pigs and geese, and for every mare and colt, one penny; for every garden, one penny; for eggs, one penny; and for honey, one penny.

The Furniture of the Church consists of two Bibles, and two Common Prayer Books in folio, both in the English and Welsh language; a surplice; a carpet for the Communion Table of black cloth, with a linen cloth and napkin for Sacrament days; a pewter plate; a pewter flagon and a silver

chalice, containing about the quantity of a pint. The furniture of the steeple is three bells, and a clock. There belongs likewise to the Vicar one moiety of a pew or seat in church, that is to say, the whole pew is in length about eight feet, and about four feet in breadth: in the middle of the pew is a partition in form of the arm of an elbow chair, and the uppermost part belongs to the Vicar, the other part to David Lloyd, of Berthfawr, gent. The parishioners are charged with the repair of the Church and the steeple and the churchyard fence. The parish clerks are, from time to time, appointed by the Vicars of this parish. The clerk's wages are one pound eight shillings a-year paid by the churchwardens for winding up the church clock, and a certain portion of corn from every farm thro' the parish, viz., one sheaf of wheat, one sheaf of rye, two sheaves of oats, and two sheaves of barley. His ffees are as follows:—for every marriage, one shilling; for every grave, two shillings; and for every woman churched, fourpence. There is due to him likewise one penny out of every sixpence of Easter dues paid by every married couple, and one penny out of every threepence paid by every widower or widow upon the said account.

To the tithes above-mentioned, as appertaining to the Vicar, is to be added the sum of two shillings yearly for every water corn mill in the parish, which is usually collected at the time of gathering wool and lambs. And be it observed that the manner of tithing pigs and geese is as follows, viz:—For every litter or farrow of pigs, one tithe pig; and for every flock of geese consisting of three or more, one tithe goose; and, if one and the same person shall have two or more ganders, with several and different flocks of geese belonging to them, there is one tithe goose due from every and singular such flock.

In Testimony thereof, we, the said Vicar, Churchwardens, and several gentlemen and parishioners of this Parish, have with our proper handwriting subscribed our names the thirty-first day of August, in the year of our Lord God One thousand seven hundred and forty-nine [1749].

SAML. LLOYD, *Vicar.*
EVAN REES, } *Churchwardens.*
The mark of DAVID X MORGAN, }

John Pryce	William Pryce
Thos. Jones	John Jones
D. Lewis, *Clerk*	Thos. Bailey
Evan Gwynne	The mark of
John Jervis	Barthoe X Jones
David Lloyd	Edward Baker
Evan Evans	Edward Jones.

A new TERRIER of the Glebe lands, House and out-houses and possessions belonging to the Vicarage and Impropriation of Llanfair Caereinion in the Deanery of Welshpool, and Diocese of St. Asaph, in the year one thousand eight hundred and fifty-six.

The Vicarage House belonging to the Vicar of Llanfair Caereinion aforesaid is a brick building, and was erected in the year 1800 and 1801 on a new site about fifty yards distant from the old Vicarage House, a description of which latter is contained in the Parish Register of Baptisms, commencing with the year 1748, in which is inserted a TERRIER made in 1749; and is at the present time being very considerably repaired, enlarged and improved throughout in various ways. It will hereafter consist of a dining-room and study on the ground floor, measuring respectively 17 ft. by 15 ft., and 13½ ft. by 12 ft., of a drawing-room upstairs measuring 23 ft. long by 16 ft. wide in one part, and 12 ft. wide in another part, of a kitchen measuring 18 ft. by 15 ft.; of five good sized bedrooms and of three smaller ones; and of a scullery, pantry, underground cellars, and other suitable conveniences usually belonging to a respectable dwelling house.

The out-houses are chiefly of timber, and were rebuilt of the old materials of the former out-buildings in 1828. They are in the shape of the letter L, measuring on the outside 64 ft. long in one direction and 44½ ft. long in another direction, and are upon an average 15 ft. wide. They consist of a large barn, two stables, one saddle room, one coach-house, and one cow-house with two small bays. They are covered with slates and are situated near the former Vicarage House, which was pulled down in the year 1800.

In the year 1812 the commons of this parish were enclosed, and there were awarded to the Vicar in different parts of the parish forty-four acres of land, mostly poor land, partly by way of common right, and partly by way of compensation for the diminution of the vicarial tithes in consequence of the inclosure of the commons. Including the Bounty Farm of Graigwen, and the spaces occupied by the church and churchyard, there are throughout the parish belonging to the Vicar one hundred and ten acres and twenty perches of land.

A description of the quality of these acres of land, and reference by numbers to their position in the parish map, may be seen in pages 131 and 132 of the Tithe Apportionment Book of this Parish. The boundaries of that portion of the

Glebe on which the Vicarage House stands are marked on the first page of this sheet.

The Vicarage House is situated in the close marked 194, and the out-buildings are situated in that numbered 192. The total quantity of this compact portion of the glebe about the house is four acres. The occupier of the Black Lion Farm is the only person who has a right of road along the north side of the field numbered 195. These four acres of glebe are in the township of Gelligasson, as are also the two Goytal fields, Doe-but meadow, and two allotments on Foelgoch, measuring respectively 6A. 1R. 14P., 1A. 1R. 2P., and 7A. 0R. 35P. In the township of Bryn-Elen, there is a glebe field called Erwr Person, and a small allotment measuring together 2A. 2R. 37P. In the township of Rhiwhiriaeth, there is belonging to the Benefice a close near Ty Mawnog measuring 2A. 3R. 20P. In the township of Llanfair the Vicar possesses a close near the Glyn, measuring 4A. 2R. 11P., as well as the churchyard, measuring 2A. 0R. 15P. And in the township of Llanllothian-ucha he possesses Graigwen Bounty Farm, which, inclusive of the glebe allotments annexed to it in the inclosure of 1812, measures 78A. 2R. 38P. In addition to all this, there is a triangular piece of ground near the Vicarage House, marked in the parish map 1 and 2, measuring one rood and eight perches. On a waste adjoining this piece, a poor man, by the Vicar's permission, erected, about thirty-seven years ago, a poor hovel of fir boards and thatched with straw for the accommodation of his cart and horse. This wretched hovel was accidentally burnt about two years ago. In the valuation of the dilapidations this spring, T. Penson, Esq., after having made inquiries on the subject, did not feel himself justified in including this wretched hovel built at the poor man's own expense, and only partially erected on the glebe, in his valuation. Though mentioned in the Tithe Apportionment Book as a barn, this hovel was never used as a barn. From a Terrier made in 1791, it appears that this triangular piece of land was originally a portion of the field numbered 195, and that the road which now divides them was made only a few years previously.

The Vicarage House and the ten acres of land usually held by the Vicar himself are rated at £30 a year. The gross rent received for Graigwen Bounty Farm, and the allotments annexed to it, exclusive of one pound annually charged for land-tax, is forty-four pounds a year. And the gross rents received for all the other portions of the glebe and allotments belonging to the Benefice, and including one pound a year received

as interest upon £22 bond money on the Turnpike Trust, are twenty pounds and ten shillings a year. In the year 1845, the Vicar's rights to all tithes, moduses, Easter dues, and other customary payments, with the exception of surplice fees throughout the parish, were commuted for an annual rent-charge of three hundred and fourteen pounds and five shillings. The surplice fees consist of sixpence for every woman when she comes to be churched, ten shillings for every wedding by licence, five shillings for every wedding by banns, and one shilling and sixpence for the publication of banns. To prevent the churchyard being filled through the too frequent burial of persons from other parishes, it has been customary for the Vicar to charge seven shillings and sixpence for the burial of a non-parishioner. There belongs to the Vicar a pew in church measuring about six feet in length by about four feet in breadth, the portion of the pew mentioned in former terriers as containing a partition in the form of an elbow chair, having been for several years separated from the Vicar's pew. There also belongs to the Vicar the half of another pew, which his servants generally occupy, the other half belonging to the proprietor of the Garthlwyd Estate.

The Furniture of the Church consists of two Bibles, and four Common Prayer Books in folio, one half of each being in the English language, and the remaining half in the Welsh language; two surplices; a covering for the Communion Table of crimson cotton velvet; a linen cloth and napkin for Sacramental days; a pewter plate; a pewter flagon; a silver chalice, containing about the quantity of a pint; and a silver cup containing about the quarter of a pint, bearing an inscription that it was the gift of Mrs. Lewis.

The furniture of the steeple is four bells and a clock; the fourth bell, a small one, being the gift of — Devereux, Esq., of Brynglâs.

There is also a hearse, the gift of the late Mrs. Lloyd, of Garthlwyd. According to the Terriers of the years 1749 and 1791, and according to the custom of the parish, the parishioners are charged with the repairs of the church and steeple, and also of the churchyard fences.

The Parish Clerks are, from time to time, appointed by the Vicar of this parish. The wages of the parish clerk for several years past have been one pound a-year for winding up the church clock, and one pound a-year for cleaning the church, washing the surplices, etc. These two pounds are chargeable upon the church-rate, but have not been paid for the last two or three years in consequence of no church-rate having been

passed and collected during that period. The parish clerk's rights to sheaves of different kinds of grain from every farm in the parish, to a portion of the Vicar's Easter dues, and to other customary payments, with the exception of surplice fees, were commuted in 1845 for a rent-charge of fifteen pounds a year. The clerk's fees for several years past have been—for every wedding by license, five shillings; for every wedding by banns, two shillings and sixpence; in addition to sixpence for the insertion of the banns in the *Banns' Book;* for the grave of a pauper, two shillings; for the grave of a person not a pauper, three shillings, including attendance on the day of the funeral; and for every woman churched, fourpence.

In the Testimony thereof, we, the said Vicar, Churchwardens, and several of the parishioners of this Parish, assembled in a legal Vestry held in the Parish Church, have, with our own proper handwriting, subscribed our names the seventh day of August, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and fifty-six. The word "five" having been first underlined above the last line but one of the last page *(supra)*.

ENOCH PUGH, B.D., *Vicar.*

JOHN MORRIS,
RICHARD GRIFFITHS, } *Churchwardens.*

John Jones, Gwynyndy.
Thomas Jehu, Dolgoch Mill.
Samuel Evans, Draper, etc., in Llanfair.
Daniel Hughes, Innkeeper, Llanfair.
John Jones, Farmer.
Christopher Jones, Currier, Llanfair.
John Evans, Assistant Overseer, Llanfair.

III.—NONCONFORMITY.

The Nonconformist sects, established in this parish, are the Independents, Calvinistic Methodists, Wesleyan Methodists, and Baptists, with a small section of the latter called "Disciples."

The Independents.—This denomination comes into particular prominence in this parish only in the early years of this century, although there is no doubt whatever, that their preachers, in the two preceding

centuries, visited and preached here. The farmhouse of Wttra Wen, it would seem, by a note written by Mr. Richard Tibbott to the Rev. Howel Harris, was open as early as 1743, if not earlier, to the preachers of the Calvinistic Methodists and the Independents, and it was from the Wttra Wen the Independent Church of Penarth started. The chapel at the latter place, being probably the first Nonconformist chapel built in the parish, was erected in 1790.

Regular service in the village of Llanfair was first kept by Mr. James Davies of Aberhavesp, who came over on Sundays to preach, hiring a room for the purpose in the village. A chapel was built in 1813, and Mr. Davies became the pastor. Mr. Davies could preach well in English and Welsh. He being an energetic and attractive preacher, collected a goodly number of worshippers, who formed a church before the chapel was built. The site for the chapel was given by Mr. Griffith Evans, glover. Mr. Davies continued the pastor for nearly forty years, when he emigrated to America.

The Independents have five places of worship in the parish, namely, Llanfair, built 1830, cost £300, to seat 210; Penarth, built 1790, cost £300, to seat 130; Siloh, built 1825, rebuilt in 1845, and again in 1877, at a cost of £220, to seat 100; Peniel, built 1840, cost £150, to seat 150; Byrwydd and Dolanog, now seldom used. These are served by two ministers.

Calvinistic Methodists.—This denomination, as well as the Independents, held preaching services in private dwellings, in different outlying parts of the parish, long before they came to establish themselves in the town. Soon after the breaking out of the great Methodist revival in Wales, the Calvinistic Methodists held services in a barn at Holly Bush, near Pentyrch. The first house which was opened for them, as well as for the Independents, was the Wttra Wen, kept by a tenant of the name of Thomas Rowland, who afterwards removed to Llwyn Coppa, in Llanwyddelan.

He was appointed to the office of deacon, or *blaenor*, which he filled with great faithfulness, and was held in great esteem. Mr. Tibbott, writing to Rev. Howel Harris, in a letter dated October 14th, 1747, has the following notice about Llanfair (which shows that their preachers visited this parish before that year) :— "They are as usual in Llanfair, excepting that one young girl has been excluded." This denomination had several lay preachers, called *Cynghorwyr* (exhorters), in the parish, the earliest being Evan Powell, David Jehu of Dolgead, John Thomas of Rhosfawr, and Evan Davydd of Rhosgweision. The first "Society" was formed at Pentyrch, some time during the religious revivals under Howel Harris and Rowlands of Llangeitho. These first societies cannot be called churches, for the Sacraments were not administered therein, the members being enjoined to partake of the Communion in the parish church. The celebrated preacher, Mr. Robert Roberts of Clynnog, in Carnarvonshire, used to visit and preach at Penygochel, a place about two miles from the village on the road to Llanerfyl. It is said that such was the charm and power with which he set out the gospel doctrines, that the people could not restrain their emotions, breaking out into tears and the joyful strains of the "*gorfoleddu.*" At one meeting an old farmer, who had come in casually to hear, and being of a stoical turn of mind, and unable to understand what all the excitement was about, shouted out to the people to be calm, in these words :—"*Amynedd, amynedd, bobl fach, daw pob peth, i'w le yn fuan.*" ("Have patience, have patience, dear people, everything will come right by-and-bye.") The connection so increased in numbers that, by the year 1795, they were of sufficient importance to have the "Association" held in the village in this year, which was the first held in Llanfair. There were present, among other preachers, the Rev. Thomas Charles of Bala, and the celebrated John Elias. The latter preached from these words :—"Enter ye in

at the strait gate, etc."; and Mr. Charles announced that a Sunday school would be opened in the village. Soon after this Sunday schools were opened in the neighbourhood of Cann Office and Dolanog, and another near Cyffronydd, each of which subsequently became a nucleus for a church, and all of which are in a flourishing condition at the present day. About the year 1808, the Rev. Owen Jones settled at Gelli, where he continued to reside until his death, in 1828. His advent and residence in the parish greatly furthered the prosperity of the Calvinistic Methodists, for besides being a man of some means, he was a very pious Christian, and possessed of considerable talent.

This denomination has six chapels in the parish, called, or known, as Moriah, Llanfair, first built in 1800, rebuilt in 1838, and again, on a new site, in 1874, at a cost of £2,290, to seat 260; Horeb, built in 1823, rebuilt 1877, cost £460, to seat 150; Soar, rebuilt 1864, cost £400, to seat 90; Pentyrch, built in 1834, cost £180, to seat 110; Bethlehem, built in 1834, cost £200, to seat 135; and Sardis, built nine years ago, cost £100, to seat 80.

Wesleyan Methodists.—The Wesleyans only commenced preaching in the parish in or about the year 1804, when Mr. Batten, one of their missionary preachers, stationed at the time in the Ruthin circuit, came over. He hired a room, or obtained permission to preach, at the "Red Lion Inn," where, on one occasion, and while the service was going on, the landlord of the house entered, and, being the worse for drink, began to call his wife to book for letting it to the "agitator". He was quieted, however, by a man of the name of Vaughan, who requested him to desist his noise and be peaceable, "that the people may hear what the boy had got to say." This expostulation succeeded, and the service went on without interruption.

In 1806, Mr. Jones of Bathafarn, Denbighshire, came, and the following year Mr. John Maurice of

Llangollen. The last obtained admission to a house just opposite the church, and, being a shouting and vehement speaker, drew crowds to hear, which brought the vicar down upon him after the church service was over. He, being a justice of the peace, sent for the preacher to come before him, but let him off with a reprimand and caution not to come there again.

They built a chapel in the town in 1818, but they previously had a small place for their use at Melinyddol, about a mile away. They have now three chapels in the parish at the present time, namely, Llanfair, built in 1818, rebuilt a few years ago; Gwaenynog, built in 1820, cost £200, to seat 120; and Gwynfa, built in 1850, cost £120, to seat 90.

The Baptists.— The denomination commonly known by this name (but more accurately Anti-pædobaptists) established themselves about the year 1820, in the parish; but later, that is, in the year 1824, in the town. The first Baptists were Mr. Hugh Ellis, Tybrith, Llangyniew, and his wife, who had been admitted into the fellowship at Shrewsbury. The first person who was baptised, by immersion, was one Grace Williams; the officiating ministers on the occasion were the Revs. John Jones of Newtown, and William Evans of Cwmllwyd. This was in the year 1820. These three were added to by the secession of Mrs. Watkins and Thomas Evans from the Independents, and with two or three more they formed themselves into a church. Their services were held in a house belonging to Mrs. Watkins. In 1825, their first chapel was opened, and their renowned preacher, Christmas Evans, preached in it on several occasions. Their first minister, or pastor, was a Mr. William Roberts, from the South Wales Academy. But they have made many changes of ministers. Mr. Roberts only stayed about two years, and was followed, in 1828, by Mr. Richard Hughes of Cefnmawr; Mr. John Watkins, a local man, in 1832, but who died in 1837; Mr. Owen Williams of Holywell, the same year; Mr. Daniel

Williams, from South Wales, in 1840; Mr. William Watkin, in 1844, during whose time a difference arose among themselves upon some theological points, and which has been the cause of many divisions in this denomination at large. This difference culminated in a split. Mr. Watkin and a few members seceded, and formed themselves into a Church, under the sectional name of the "Disciples". Mr. R. A. Jones became the minister in 1849. Under his ministry, the number of members increased considerably. He left for a larger sphere of labour at Swansea, amid much regret, and was succeeded by Mr. Joseph Jones (*Iolo Môn*), who remained two years, and who again was followed by two or three others, the last being Mr. Griffith Thomas. In his time a new chapel was built in 1872, on an improved site, at a cost of £800, to seat 200.

The Disciples (*or Campbellites*).—These have a small chapel, erected in 1849. The members are few in number, but are preparing to build a new chapel in lieu of the present one. The late President Garfield of America, belonged to this sect.

The Quakers.—Richard Davies, the Quaker, adopted Quaker principles while in the service of Mr. Evan Jones, a felt-maker at Llanfair, to whom he was apprenticed; and he preached a good deal in that neighbourhood, winning many apparently to his views. For a time Quakerism seems to have had numerous adherents in this locality, but disappeared entirely early in the last century, and has left no traces behind.

The following is a summary of Nonconformist expenditure in places of worship, and the number of sittings provided :—

Calvinistic Methodists.	Expenditure abt.	£3630	Sittings	-	835
Independents	„ -	970	„	-	590
Wesleyan Methodists	„ -	1920	„	-	410
Baptists	„ -	800	„	-	200
Disciples	„ -	200	„	-	110
	Total Expenditure	£7520	Total Stngs.		2145

IV.—Biographical.

Of the public men, ministers, and preachers, recently dead, belonging to the Nonconformists in this parish, whose lives were "epistles known and read of all men", and worthy to be spoken of by coming generations, are the following :—

Rev. Owen Jones of the Gelli.—Mr. Jones was a minister among the Calvinistic Methodists. He was born in Towyn, Merionethshire, on the 16th February 1787. He came to reside at the Gelli in 1809, upon his marriage with the heiress of the estate. His early life had been spent in promoting the revival of religion, and in Sunday School work, in the western districts of the county and its borders. As a Sunday School catechist he was unequalled ; and his labours in Scripture teachings bear fruit to the present day. He was one of the two or three ministers who formed the denominational Offa's Dyke mission. He was in the habit of spending a large portion of his time among the borderers in preaching and teaching. Before the mission was formed, he would start off at daybreak on horseback from the Gelli—twenty miles to his mission stations, returning the same night, neither asking nor taking pay for his services. His name is held in great respect. He died at the too early age of forty-one years. The late Rev. John Hughes of Pentrobert, wrote an elegy on his death, of which the following is one verse :—

"Jones o'r Gelli seren oleu,
Danllyd lewyrchiadau llawn ;
Er mor ddisglaer fu'n goleuo,
Ca'dd fachludo 'n gynar iawn ;
Cyn cyrhaeddyd dwy a deugain,
Ei 'daith a'i waith orphenodd ef ;
Wedi tymhor byr llafurus,
Y mae 'n gorphwys yn y nef."

Rev. Richard Jones of Llanfair.—He was minister in the same denomination, and was known far and

wide in the Principality, and in English towns, as "Richard Jones o Llanfaircaereinion". He spent a long and useful life in this parish ; but was a native of the neighbouring parish of Llanwyddelan, and born in 1802. His grandmother, Betti Huw Shôn, was one of the early converts under the ministry of the fathers of the denomination, "Howel Harris", and "Rowlands, Llangeitho." The members of the fellowship, who were equal to the journey, used to go to Llangeitho Church and to Bala, to receive the Communion at the hands of the Rev. Thomas Charles. But Betti Huw Shôn went to live at Llangeitho, to be nearer Rowland's ministry. Mr. Richard Jones received his early impressions under the ministrations of Mr. Humphrey Gwalchmai. He soon gave signs of great devotion and ability to preach ; and became in a few years a man of mark among his people. He was a preacher full of spiritual fire, but was, besides this, a man of very good intellectual parts, and a great admirer and reader of the works of the Puritan Divines of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, and Oliver Cromwell never had a more ardent admirer. He was a type of the "old school" of Methodist fathers, who are now getting rare among the present ministers of the denomination.

Rev. John Davies.—He was another preacher of some standing, but whose fame was mainly local. He possessed an extraordinary memory, could quote any passage from Scripture with great accuracy. He was a profound believer in the appearance of spirits from the unseen world, with which people say he held strange converse while on his nightly journeys home from his Sabbath-day ministrations.

Rev. James Davies.—He was minister among the Independents for many years here, and their pastor. He was held in great esteem in the district and county. He was a diligent student of Scripture, and a popular preacher, full of Welsh fire. He made a preaching tour through Ireland and Scotland, and many parts of England. Preaching once in Dr. Wardlaw's church in

Glasgow, and entering into his subject as at home, he would, now and again, drive home his arguments with an open-hand heavy blow on the pulpit Bible. Dr. Wardlaw, who sat under the pulpit, and unaccustomed to the Welsh fiery style, ejaculated loudly with a sigh, "Oh, my poor Bible!" Mr. Davies emigrated to America, where he recently died at an advanced age.

Rev. William Watkyn.—He was born at Ystrad, in this parish, commenced preaching with the Independents, but having imbibed the belief that baptism should be by immersion to adults only, went over to the Baptists and became their minister. He again seceded from the main body of Baptists, and with a few other members formed the sectional branch called "Disciples". He lived to the age of 85 years, and ministered to his people near to his last days. He was a man highly respected in the neighbourhood for his upright and honest life.

Rev. John Watkyn.—He was brother to the preceding William Watkyn, and a minister of the same denomination, the Baptists. He, with Mr. Robert Jones, the printer (*Bardd Mawddach*), founded the Friendly Society or Club, called the "Gomer Friendly Society." He died at the early age of 36 years.

Social Worthies.—*Major Joseph Davies.*—He was the second son of Joseph Davies, Esq., Galltyllan, near Machynlleth. Upon his retirement from the army, he came to reside with his sister and her daughter at Brynglas, exchanging with his cousin, to avoid dividing the estate. He lived here 37 years, and died in 1879. He was a County Magistrate, and took an active part in parish business. He left his moiety of Brynglas to a younger cousin and co-heir, Isabella Jane, wife of David Howell, Esq., Machynlleth. A stained glass window has been placed in the church to his memory, the subjects being "Christ the Comforter", "The Ascension", and "The Women at the Cross."

Captain Robert G. Davies.—He was born at the Tygwyn, which is now the Black Lion Inn, Llanfair.

His grandfather was of the Davieses of Maesmawr Hall, near Newtown, who were a family of old standing there, and claiming princely descent. In an autobiography by himself he states of his family thus :—"Our family is perhaps the most ancient of the name, as we trace our descent for over twenty generations to Aleth, Prince of Demetia. Our name, Davies, was adopted by Reynold, son of David ap Evan, only eight generations back, or less than 300 years ago."

John Richard Pickmere, Esq.—He was born in 1794, in Warrington, Lancashire, where he practised as attorney-at-law for many years. He purchased the "Mount" in this parish in 1852, which he improved for a residence for himself. He was the author of a work bearing the following strange title :—"*Being, analytically described in its chief respects and principal truths, in the order of this analysis, fully stated, with a detail of man's spiritual and chief relations.*" He died May 11th, 1875, and was buried in this churchyard.

Robert Pugh.—I venture to introduce him into this parish history, as he was in his day a character of some interest in the place, and will for a long time to come, no doubt, be talked of. He lived a long life in the parish, but was a sort of an "odd number", which no one could reduce in the equation of social life. Perhaps he had, after all a useful place in society. He was never known to use profane language, and his words were few, and his conversation chaste and proper. Whatever were his thoughts, few persons should know them; and beyond his sister, true and faithful creature, he made no other his confidant. He was well related by family relationship, and he himself had the air and carriage of a gentleman, and had received a genteel education. He was never married; "they say" he had been crossed in love, which was the cause of his becoming an unconformist in public society. He lived with his sister, who, whatever anybody else thought of him, thought there was no one so handsome, so good,

or so wise as Robert. He was the recipient of a small annuity, which helped out his earnings as a cottage gardener. How he came by it, or who paid it him no one was certain, for he went to London always to receive it, walking the journey to and from the metropolis, and a splendid walker he was. He had a great turn of mind for making English sermons, or religious discourses, which he would preach to his sister and to her alone. When she was auditor, he would compel her to be quite motionless and silent until the sermon was over. If she moved hand or foot, he would proceed no further. His voice he raised that it could be heard some distance off. Listeners who ventured to approach the house, at this time, had to use the utmost caution, for the slightest noise outside would raise his suspicion, whereupon he would instantly stop. And those who have heard him, say, his discourses were very fine pieces of composition. Yet he would never enter church but once a year, and that was on Easter Sunday, at which time he partook of the Holy Communion. On that day he would dress in his very best and gayest. Everything was out of the common fashion, and everything was old, but good, excepting perhaps his shoes, which he could not well preserve to old age. His beaver, though old, was in good or fair condition, coat of blue cloth with bright gilt buttons, of the old "swallow-tail" cut, white silk waistcoat, white knee-breeches, and white silk stockings, all without a spot or stain on them, shoes with silver buckles. Under his arm he would carry a green umbrella, be the weather what it may, and this had the primitive "buck-horn" handle. He carried himself erect, with footsteps light but becoming. He preserved to old age a wonderful activity and erectness in walking. When he returned from church, and before making any change of dress, he must first deliver his sermon to his sister. After which he changed clothes, putting by his best, most carefully, until the next Easter Sunday. He died at the advanced age of 80 years.

Einion Yrth.—This is a considerable leap, from the nineteenth to the fifth century, without a celebrity in the interval of fourteen centuries; but we have to console ourselves that it is the general fate of other districts. This chieftain belongs to the roll of honour of the fifth century. Llanfair has a claim to place him in her list. There are many places in the parish with "Einion" graven upon them. And Welsh history states that Einion Yrth had given him the possession of the lordship of Caereinion. "Einion Yrth, the son of Cunedda, had for his share a large district called from him Caereinion, in Montgomeryshire. He succeeded his father as King of North Wales in A.D. 389, and reigned until his death in 443."[1] We are indebted for a little longer account of this personage than the preceding to "Llyfr Du o Gaerfyrddin" :—"The sons of Coel Godebog, namely, Ceneu ap Coel, and Elen (Lueddog), the eldest daughter, who married Constantine, Roman emperor; and another daughter, Gwawl (daughter of Coel), who married Edeyrn, the son of Padarn Peisrudd, who had with her as dower the regency of North Wales. They had a son called Cunedda (Wledig). His son was Ceredig, lord of Ceredigion, and he had a son called Einion Yrth, who was lord of Caereinion in Powys. And a son of Einion Yrth was called Caswallawn (Law hir), King of North Wales; and he was one of the four knights or esquires who carried swords before Arthur at the great feast in Caerlleon." Another MS. runs his pedigree up to Adam with mercurial rapidity :—"Einion Yrth ap Cunedda Wledig ap Edeyrn ap Padarn Beisrudd ap Conan ap Coel Godebog ap Tegwan ap Deheuwynt ap Teirnis ap Urban ap Gradd ap Rhiddym ap Cyndeyrn ap Endos ap Ondalen ap Aflach ap Alydd ap Beli Mawr ap Manogan ap Dyfnwal Hên ap Gorddyfwn ap Camber ap Brutus ap Sylvius ap Ascanius ap Eneas Ysgwyddwyn ap Oroda ap Anseises ap Capis ap Sarasis ap Serin ap Temianis ap Dardan ap Jupiter ap Satyrn

[1] Williams's *Eminent Welshmen.*

ap Celi ap Garsi ap Teteimi ap Jenair (Gomer) ap Siapheth ap Noe Hen —— ap Adda."

The *Triads* state that Cunedda Wledig was the first who gave lands and privileges to the church in this island.

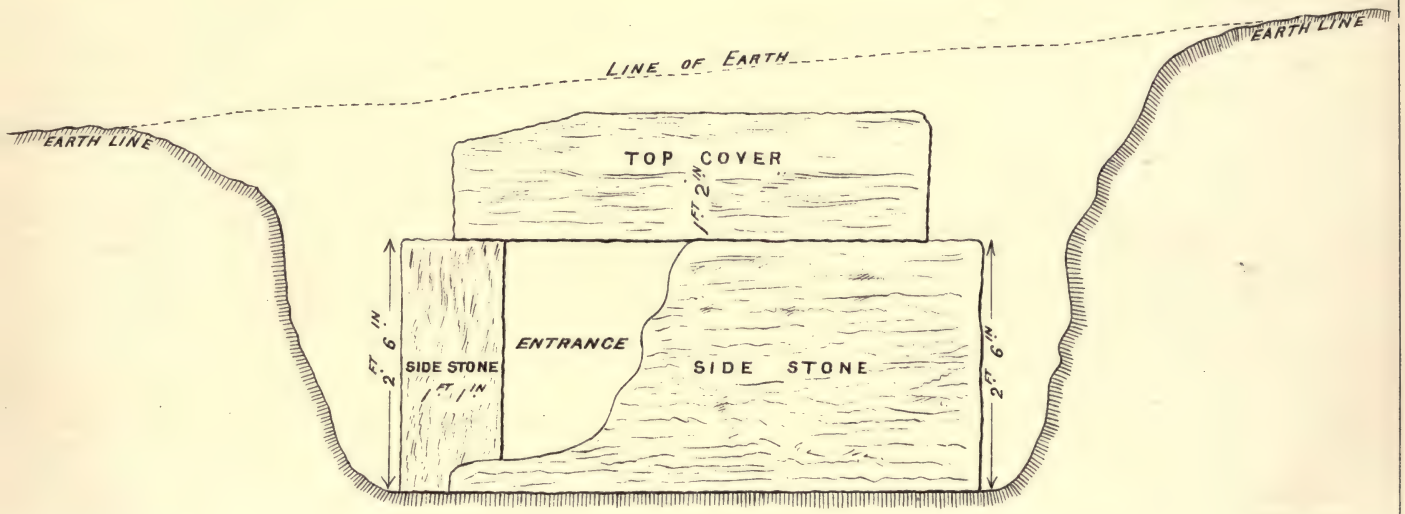
There is reference to Einion in a poem by Howel ap Rheinallt, a poet who flourished *circa* 1470, as follows :—

"Y crefyddwr cryf addwyn,
Aur yw dy fedd er dy fwyn,
Einion fawr Einion freiniol,
Frenin a'th werin o'th ol,
Daionus fab Owain Danwyn,
Dywysog llaw eurwg yn Llŷn,
Hwyr awn a chwyr i'n iachau,
Einion Yrth yr un wyrthiau."

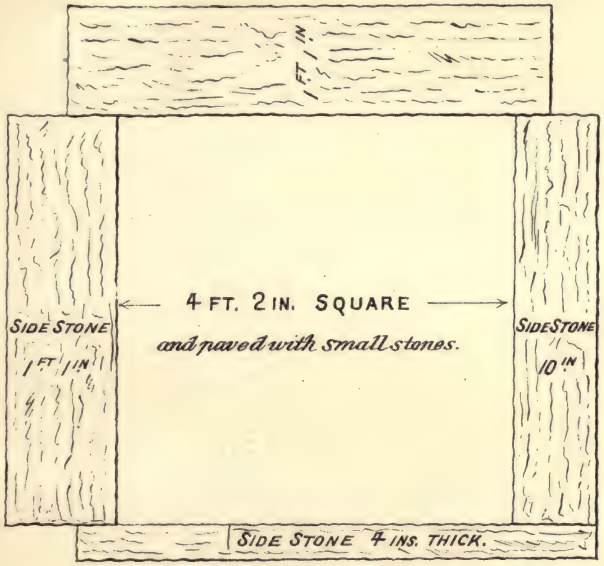
(*To be continued.*)

CIST FAEN FOUND AT GWYNYNDY.

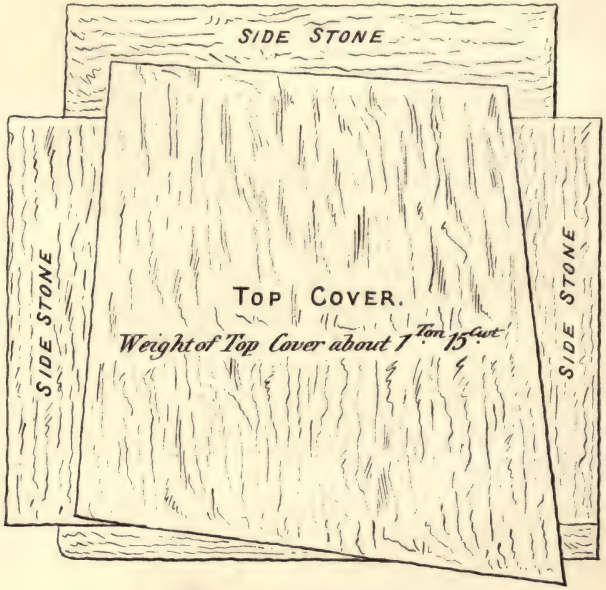
IN THE PARISH OF LLANGADFAN.



ELEVATION OF EAST END.



GROUND PLAN.



PLAN SHOWING TOP COVER.

SCALE OF FEET.

MONT COLL: VOL. XVI. TO BE MOUNTED BETWEEN P. 378 & 379.

CIST FAEN FOUND AT GWYNYNDY FARM IN THE PARISH OF LLANGADFAN.

In the month of July 1883, an interesting archæological discovery was made on the farm of Gwynyndy, which is situated in that portion of the parish of Llangadfan which has been ecclesiastically transferred to Garthbeibio. Gwynyndy farm is distant about seventeen miles from Welshpool and a mile and a half from Cann Office towards Llymystyn. In a field on a narrow lane leading from the main road to the River Banwy, a farmer, named Mr. Jonathan Evans, of the Foel, was ploughing, and his plough came in contact with a stone which was found to be of a very large size, and when cleared, it was discovered to be the upper stone of an ancient tomb or Cist Faen. There had been in this place a mound of earth, or barrow, in a corner of the field which had been always noticed to be elevated above the rest of the land. But it had been reduced by constant ploughing, and when the farmer's plough touched the stone it was only just covered with soil. When the ground was cleared, the stone was found to be very large, weighing, it is estimated, not less than one ton and three quarters. Under it there were four stones forming a rectangular vault or Cist Faen, four feet two inches square and two feet six inches deep, and at the bottom it was paved with small stones. The three sides of the vault consisted of stones from ten to thirteen inches thick. On the fourth side was a stone only four inches thick, which was broken. This latter seemed to be an entrance or doorway to enter the vault. Nothing was found inside it, but in the clay about the place of interment were found pieces of an urn of a very rude character and a few

scattered bones. These have been all carried away by people who went to see the place, but many pieces of the urn and some of the bones have been preserved by the tenant, Mr. Jonathan Evans, and others. It seems as if an entrance had on some previous occasion been made into the Cist Faen by breaking the thin stone, which, it is conjectured, formed a sort of doorway, and then the contents would be rifled, and the urn, or urns, of which fragments were found about, were taken out, and, probably, when handled without care, went to pieces.

By the direction of the Earl of Powis, near whose house at Llymystyn this Cist Faen was found, a sketch and plan of it was made by his lordship's local agent, Mr. John Black, from which we are enabled to give an illustration. Mr. Black believes that the ridge of earth on the site is all made ground, and it is thought that other vaults are there, and if the place were opened out and cleared that more discoveries might be made.

No less than three Cist Faens have been previously found at different times in this parish, of which the Rev. Griffith Edwards, in his history of the parish (printed in the *Mont. Coll.*, vol. ii, p. 327), gives a cursory account. One was discovered at Nant bran about forty or fifty years ago, and the "large rude stones of which it was formed" were dressed and put up as "an entrance in front of the post-office at Llangadfan". Another was found near Dol-y-pebyll; and a third under one of two carns of great size at Pont Llogel. The Llangadfanites are evidently utilitarians, for they used the materials of the carns and cist faens for wall or road-making, or some other such ignoble purpose. There was no carn of stones in this place, only a mound of earth, artificially formed and covering the stone chest.

CIVIL WAR INCIDENTS
IN
MONTGOMERYSHIRE.

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION.

(See *Mont. Coll.*, vol. xiv, p. 318.)

WE have received the following communication from Mr. Earwaker, F.S.A.:—

A LETTER FROM SIR THOMAS MIDDLETON TO THE SPEAKER. 1644.

IN a small quarto MS. volume in my possession, containing transcripts of State Papers, etc., for the last quarter of the year 1645 (see *Notes and Queries*, January 1883), is the following letter belonging to the previous year, which has been transcribed in mistake. It is dated from Redd Castle, 30 October 1644, and contains an interesting account of the assault on Ruthin Castle, and the general state of this part of North Wales in that year.

In the Rev. Richard Newcome's *Account of the Castle and Town of Ruthin*, published in 1829, he refers, on p. 64, to the entries contained in the pocket book of Mr. William Morris of Llansilin, and gives the following quotation, which has a direct bearing on Sir Thomas Middleton's letter.

1644, Oct. 2nd.—"Sir Thomas Myddelton and Col. Mytton, with all their forces from Montgomeryshire and Shropshire, met at Llangollen, and on the 20th Oct. began violently to assault the Castle of Ruthin, and so continuing for two days, and conceaving no hopes of forcing it, retreated out of the county, without performing any other atchievements."

It will be noticed, in his letter Sir Thomas Middleton states that his forces occupied the town, and that the Royalist foot soldiers fled to the Castle, but he says

nothing about having captured or attempt to capture that fortress. Mr. Newcome observes, "Sir Thomas Myddelton, it is well known, remained not long attached to the Parliament cause, but became a distinguished Cavalier. His early defection from loyalty, we may suspect, was instigated by the recent failure in his wishes; or he may have thought it allowable to knock somewhat rudely at the gate of his own Castle." In this letter he is very anxious to surrender his position and to leave the Parliamentary army.

J. P. Earwaker.

Pensarn, Abergele, N. Wales.

Much Hond. Sir,—I have not much at this time worth the Imparting unto you, having Intelligence of the Enemies intention to raise new forces in Wales & of their dayly pressing of men, & how they Intended to fortify Ruthyn, & make it a Garrison town (It being a place of great Importance) I resolved to interrupt their proceedings the best I could, & thereupon drew out a small party both of horse & foot & marched to Ruthyn, it being 3 days march from Redd Castle & Extream Whet Weather; at 3 days end we came thither, & found Coll: Trevor, & Coll: Trafford with about 400 horse & foot, who withstood our Entrance Into the Town, but after some exchange of Shott, we brake in upon them, & beat them out of the Town; the Enemies foot ran into the Castle, & their horse towards Denbigh, we lost never a man at that time, we killed one of theirs, tooke a cornet, a Doctor, & a Quartermaster, with some 20 troopers: I hope we have scattered them, & distracted them so that they will not easily raise men again. The Enemy Intends to raise great forces in these parts against the Prince's coming, which they Expect Dayly, with 10,000 arms & 500 barrels of Powder. The Country comes in reasonably well in Montgomeryshire where I am, but we want arms exceedingly, & are like so to Do, if our arms that we provided, & sent down both by sea & land shall be taken from us, as they are, & we left destitute & naked now in time of need. At my Last coming down I sent by sea to be landed at Leverpoole a parcell of arms (as by the Particulars Inclosed you may perceive) but are all taken from me by one Capt. Tatum without warrant, as I conceive, & if our Arms shall be Taken away, at ev'ry man's pleasure, that are to come to furnish these Remote parts, it is but folly for any Man to attempt the Reducing of

them; I brought 1,000 Arms to Namptwhich, & at the last Seige they were all taken away, & 28 Barrels of Powder, & I can neither get my Arms again, or any Satisfaction for them; I humbly desire that Captain Tatum & S'r Will: Brereton & the Cheshire Com'ittee may be ordered either to return me so many & so good as they had of mine, or satisfaction for them, or that the Hon'ble house will be pleased to furnish me with 1,500 muskets, as many Swords, Belts, Snapsacks, & Bandaliers, with 500 barrels of Powder, 8 of shot, & 150 Bundles of Match, all which they took away of mine, else I shall not be able to proceed in the work I have begun, nor to Do you any More Service in these parts; for except we may have arms we can do Nothing, & seeing I have Entrenched upon your patience thus far, give me leave I beseech you fully to disgorge my self. I have often pressed you by my letters for relief both of men, arms & Monies, but such hath been my Unhappiness, that I have not received any Satisfaction in any one of them, nay, When Motions have been made for Relief, & the Motion granted, yet it hath been crossed & Stopped: I assure my Self the wisdom of the house have Sufficient grounds for what they Did, but the Com'on wealth & my self suffer in the meantime. It is now 6 months sithence I came down, I had a thousand pound of the house at my Coming away, sithence that time never a penny; what I had before my Coming away was Laid out at London, as will appear by the Accounts, when you please to call for them; I have lost more than the One half of my Men for want of money, though I have stretched my credit, to borrow all the Money I could get, to pay the soldiers; I am much troubled that you have No better thoughts of these parts, sure I am that from these parts the King first raised his powerful army, & Pr: Rupert a second, & a third, & if care be not speedily taken to prevent, they will raise another Army as great as any of the former; I am disabled to prevent it, for I have neither men to spare, nor money to pay those men that I have, nor Arms to Arm those that are willing to come in unto me; I have often sollicited that Hon'ble house for all these, but Never received any the least satisfaction of any one of my Wants; I confess my own Unworthyness & Inability to do you so good service as I desire, & you may justly expect from me; I assure my self that if you did Employ some other man of better abilities, you would Enable him Ev'ry way to Do you service; My humble request therefore unto you is, that you would please to move the hon'ble house to think of one that they hold fitter for this Employment, & give me leave to Lay down my Commission, and to give my attendance upon the house, & I shall acknowledge it as a special favour from

your self, & as an hon'r done to me from the house. I beseech you to excuse this My boldness, & vouchsafe your Pardon if my troubled thoughts have Uttered anything Unadvisedly, for I am resolved to sacrifice My Life and fortunes in the service of the King & Parliament, so returning you Many thanks for all your Noble favours, & humbly Presenting my service to the Hon'ble house, I subscribe myself

S'r Your Most Faithful friend & Servant,

Redd Castle, THO. MIDDLETON.
30th October 1644.

There is £3,100, being a legacy of the Lady Campdens for buying of Impropriations, which sum is now in the hands of Mr. Thomas Maye executor to the Lady. If the house please to grant it, I am confident it will be ready Money to supply my Occasions, which are Very Urgent, & if Some Speedy course be not Speedily taken to Supply me with men, Arms, & moneys, I fear the Sad Effects the want of them may produce; It is impossible to raise any considerable summ of Moneys in these parts, untill we be masters of the field. I leave all to your Wisdom, being resolved to go on, & not to Loose any Opportunity that May give us any advantage; & if I perish, I Perish; I am, S'r,

Y'r devoted friend & Servant,

THO: MIDDLETON.

[With this is a list of the arms, barrels of powder, etc., landed at Liverpool in July 1644.]

GUILSFIELD.

(*Extract from Royalist Composition Papers*, 1st series, vol. xxiv, p. 1.)

In these Royalist Composition papers there are a great variety of local details of a very interesting nature. I had occasion recently to look at these "Compositions" touching some lands in the county, and I was surprised to find so large a number of Recusants and so much property in Montgomeryshire confiscated. I think the papers relating thereto would fill one of volumes of the *Montgomeryshire Collections*. They seem to be petitions of the proper owners or of others wanting to become tenants of the lands confiscated. They are the original documents, and there are "Mems"

on them as to what decisions the Sequestrative Committee came to in each case or other remarks. There is a sameness about the petitions that would perhaps render it inexpedient to print them *verbatim;* but a schedule might be compiled, with the decisions, and commentary in the shape of foot notes, of anything specially curious in the prayer of the petitioners, which would be interesting. Waiting for some documents the other day at the Record Office, I copied the enclosed, relating to Guilsfield. To my mind it is interesting in several ways: 1. It shows the division of opinion in the parish as to which side to take; 2. It shows "*Shradon*" Castle was a Royalist centre for Lower Montgomeryshire; 3. It shows the people of Guilsfield, so late as 1644, had not adopted surnames; 4. It shows how the Parliamentary party punished poor Edward Ellis, Vicar (I suppose of Guilsfield), keeping him from his family, in London.

The memo. on the side of folio 1, "Wot mon prooves this", is in a different handwriting to the body of the paper. I have no doubt, it could be ascertained from the Exchequer Decrees in the Record Office—the *result* of E. Ellis's petition; which would make the Extracts complete, but as a specimen I trust this extract will be considered worthy of insertion in the *Montgomeryshire Collections.*

E. R. Morris.

Royalist Composition Papers, 1st Series, vol. xxiv, p. 1.

The names of those inhabitants of the parish of Guilsfield who sent in one month's contribution by a private messenger, after the second payment made by the High Constable to Shrewardine Garrison, over 3 payments by our High Constable, in total 4 payments before the date of Coll. Vaughan's last account.

		s.	*d.*
Warrants issued out in Dec. 1644.	Edward Lloyd of Tirymynech, 1 payment -	2	0
	Jane Morris, widow, de Varchoele, 1 payment	2	0
Wot mon prooves this.	Richard ap Evan de Varchoele, 1 payment -	1	0
	Roger ap Edward de Varchoele, 1 payment	0	6

The names of those inhabitants of Guilsfield aforesaid who sent in two months contributions by a private messenger to Shrewsbury Garrison, both in ye interval of ye 2nd and 3rd payment made by Edward Vaughan our High Constable, whereof we have receiptes under the hande of Mr. Tho. Sherwood, one of March xij, 1644, ye other of Aprill the 10th, 1645, over and besides 3 payments at sev'all times paid in by ye High Constable, before the date of Coll. Vaughan's last warrant.

	s.	*d.*
Brochwel Griffith de Broniarth, gent., for his meanes in Broniarth and Varchoele, 2 payments	8	0
Roger Lownes (?) de Burgedin, 2 payments	4	2
Evan D'd ap Evan de Burgedin, 2 payments	4	0
John Rhees ap Einion de Burgedin, 2 payments	5	0
William Sinsoil (?) de Burgedin, 2 payments	2	6
Thos. Rogers de Varchoel, gent., 2 payments	8	0
Ed. Ellis, therd, 2 payments	4	0
Geoffrey Thomas de Varchoel, 2 payments	4	9
Edward Withers de Varchoel, 2 payments	4	0
Robert Griffith ap Rhees, for his meanes in the township of Varchoel and Garth, 2 payments	6	0
Tho. Parry de Varchoel, 2 payments	2	0
Richard ap Thomas de Varchoel, 2 payments	2	8
Roger Griffith D'd Morris de Tirymyneth, 2 payments	3	9

Sum total paid in as aforesaid at two severall times by a private messenger as is apparent, by ye s'd Mr. Sherwood's discharge, £3 4*s.* 4*d.* Mr. Rich. ap Tho : hath a discharge for his first of chefe (?), 2 payments by himselfe in p'ticular.

Vol. xxiv, p. 119.

Articles of Delinquency against Edward Ellis, exhibited September 11, 1646.

That he hath privately monies for Shradon and Chirke, two Garrisons that were for the late King, as appears by acquittances under his hand.

That he receaved a warrant from Col. Carter to comand the inhabitants not to pay any contribucon to the Cavaleers. Mr. Ellis did read the warrant in church himselfe, yet notwithstanding the reading of it openly in the Assembly he went privately to some of p'ishioners and advised them to contribute with him to send mony to the enemy, saying unto them let the rest doe what they will we shall be safe when the King's men come.

He delivered a note to G. W'm and withall his own assessment, which was 7*s.* 6*d.*, and other monies which the said Ellis

had gathered himselfe, and charged this W'm to levy the rest of the mony and to bring it to the King's quarters at Chyrke Castle. This W'm p'testeth that Mr. Ellis made the assessment for the Cavaleers.

That he sent by John Morris seu'rall letters to Shradon and Chyrke to Sir Wm. Vaughan and Sr. John Watts, desiring them to send their warrants to com'aund the inhabitants to send their money, and that he kept constant correspondency with the enemy and sent intelligence.

Proofes, September 11, 1646.

Griffith William, fol. 7.—That Mr. Ellis delivered unto him a note whereby monies might be privately conveyed to Shradon for the relief thereof.

Idem, fol. 10.—That Mr. Ellis delivered unto him 7*s.* 6*d.* for himself and that the said Mr. Ellis did gather of Roger Lownes 7*s.* 4*d.*, and of Edward Withers 6*s.* 8*d.*, and delivered them unto this dep't, and that Mr. Ellis was one of them which did make the assessment and did charge the said Griffith W'm to gather the rest and to bring it to Chirke Castle, a garrison of the enemies. Fol. 18—Mr. Ellis delivered the contribucion. Fo. 29, to the same effect. Fo. 11 and 30—Edward Vaughan of Garth, he about March 1644 delivered unto Mr. Ellis a warrant from Colonel Carter that they should not pay any contribucion to Sir Wm. Vaughan, notwithstanding which order he paid his own contribucon to the use of the said Sir Wm. Vaughan. Griffith Williams as before fo. 10.

John Morris, fo. 11.—*That* he brought a list about Ffeb. last from Mr. Ellis to Mr. Peter Canon, Chaplen to Sir John Watts in Chyrke Castle, that Mr. Ellis and others of the inhabitants had desired him to goe to Sir John Watts, and that at the same time he brought some warrants from the said Sir John Watts to com'and the country to send him money.

And further saith that he was entreated by Mr. Ellis and others of the inhabitants at Christmas was twelvemonth to goe to Shradon to compound about the contribucon, and that Mr. Ellis was there about the same time, and that he believes that Mr. Ellis did bring money with him at that time to'rds the contribucon.

Edward Vaughan of Garth, fo. 9.—That he (being then High Constable), met Mr. Ellis at Shradon Castle, who went there, being a garrison of the enemy, at the request of the p'ish as this dept' saith, and that Mr. Ellis and this deponent then agreed for £16 p' mensem to be paid to Sir Wm. Vaughan for the p'ish of Guilsfield.

Vol. xxiv, p. 110.

To the Honourable the Commissioners for Compounding the humble petition of Edward Ellis of Guilsfield in the County of Montgomery, Clerk.

Showeth that your petitioner hath long wayted in this City to allow his appeale before the Barons of the Exchequer that his cause tranferred to yo'r honours by order of Parliam't was by you referred to the report of Mr. Reading, and is now accordingly expedited and lodged with your Registrer.

Wherefore may it please yo'r hon'rs to asigne some fitt time at y'r conveniency wherein y'r sayd petitioner and his counsell shall attend your barre to wayte for yo'r Hon'ble determination of his long depending cause, that he may return to his charge and family in his owne countrey.

And yo'r petitioner shall ever pray,

May 20, 1653. EDWARD ELLIS.

To be heard on Thursday next, come 7 night.

Letter from the Inhabitants of Montgomeryshire to the Speaker, 1645.

In addition to the above communications further information has turned up, which supplies particulars of local events and feeling, at a period concerning which we had previously few materials. It also perhaps makes it appear as if the county of Montgomery was not so devoted to the Royal cause as we had inclined to regard it, although as archæologists we record deeds of heroism without partiality. This complexion of the affair possibly may arise from the letter we shall quote having been written by a Parliamentarian, whose inclination and interest would lead him to put the construction on the conduct of the county which, in his opinion, would be most likely to have influence with the Parliament, and induce it to relieve the county from the heavy burdens under which it was then labouring.

The battle of Naseby, which was decisive of the fortunes of the King, took place on the 14th June 1645.

From *William Maurice's Note Book* (*Mont. Coll.*, xiv, 318, note) it appears that—

"1845, 29° 7bris.—The King advanced from Chirk Castle, with his army, through Llansilin, and quartered that night at Halchdyn (Houghton), and so passed through Montgomeryshire towards Ludlow. After this overthrow Sir Wm. Vachan, with an army of two or three thousand out of Ludlow, and other garrisons in the Marches of Wales, marched through Montgomery towards Denbigh, intending with the addition of the forces of North Wales to release Chester."

We will now print a letter from the inhabitants of Montgomeryshire, to William Lenthall, Speaker of the House of Commons, dated in September 1645.

"To the Right ho'ble William Lenthall, Speaker of the House of Commons.

"Right Hon'ble,—Wee of the Com'tee and others of the Gentry and Inhabitants of the Countie of Mountgomery haveing borne our share in the common Calamities of the Nation, and being able to lay claime noe lesse then other counties to our interest in yo. favour (were wee as favoured as some to instance it, before yo. leasure served to consider it) crave now leave to vnfold the many and as wee think unparaleld sufferings of this poore Countie of Mountgomery, in the hardest and saddest times, when it first opened a doore to yo. forces vnder the command of Sir Thomas Middleton, Kn't, to enter into North Wales, maintayning them in it ag't all the forces of the neighbouring Counties round about, even to the paying of double contributions for a full twelve month together, and afterwards supporting those forces abroad, w'th its proper contributions during the Seige of Chester, and vntill the other five counties of North Wales were totally subdued to the obedience of Parliam't; dureing which service this countie lying open to rapine and spoile, was often plundered by the forces vnder the comand of Prince Maurice, Lord Biron, Gener'll Gerard, Sir Wm. Vaughan and others, and well-nigh exhausted by the great forces led too and fro through it by our late King towards reliefe of Chester.

"All which Stormes this poore countie patiently endured, hoping to see a glorious sun shine at length when all yo. enemies were dissipated, but findeing in the £6,000 per mensem this county set at more than double the rate of Denbighshire (a richer countie then it), and now in the £9,000 per mensem to exceed it still by much; wee are afraid our silence hath increased our woe:—And therefore being now sollicited

to concur in petition w'th other counties of North Wales, on an Act for a general Composition or abolition (rather) of all crimes (though conscious to o'selves of none), but supposed to be committed ag't the Parliament, as they of South Wales did. Wee humblie beseech yo. hon. that our knowne affection and sufferings (far exceeding what is afforementioned) may not (as forgotten) be cast into the same Ballance with those that shewed little or noe affection at all to the publiq' but stood it out to the last man. Now that wee be made betrayers of our owne innocency so far by subscribing a Petition that involved vs (as wee conseaue) in the same guilt w'th those wee contributed so much ayde ag'st (both in the first and second warre) to reduce to the obedience of Parliam't. But that yo. hon. being now in a capacitie (praysed be God) to distinguish betwixt yo. friend and foes, would be pleased in yo. finale judgements, now in the Transactions of North Wales to give us that Testimony of our fidelitie, as may leave vs in noe worse esteame w'th yo. hon. then wee labour'd to render ourselves in times of greatest danger, Not that wee crave any exemption from general Taxes necessarily imposed to preserve the Peace of the Nation, saveing our desire only that our proportion may not as before exceede our abilities, but rather that this poore countie being very much enfeebled in yo. service dureing the late warre, and sufficiently purged as we believe of those ill humors that formerly distemper'd it, may now at length by yo. hon'rs fauor enioy some little time of rest from all other extraordinary Burdens, the better to recover its former strength, to doe yo. hon'rs no lesse faithfull service vppon all occasions hereafter : The which wee humbly desire may be represented to yo. hon'ble house of Commons, vnto whose approved wisedomes wee humbly submit o'selves in all things, and for the favour shall ever remain[1]

" Yo' hon'rs faithfull and humble seruantes,

" Evan Gwyn (1)	Richard Owens (11)
Humpfrey Prichard (2)	David Powell (12)
Will. Pryce (3)	Rentull Owen (13)
Rees Morgan (4)	Rich. Owen (14)
Humffrey Beven (5)	Char. Lloyd (15)
William Kyffin (6)	Edw. Wynne (16)
James Mytton (7)	B. Griffith (17)
G. Wynne (8)	Tho. Rogers (18)
Tho. Edwards (9)	Jo. Wynne (19)
Lloyd Trevor	Ro. Griffiths
Edwin Lloyd (10)	Rich. Pryce (20)."

[1] *Arch. Camb.*, 1882, p. 311 ; *Egerton MSS.* 1048

NOTES *identifying the persons whose signatures are attached to the letter.*

(1) EVAN GWYN.—Probably identical with Evan Gwyn ap Reginald ap Edward of Trelydan Burgedin, Guilsfield. His father, "Reginald ap Edward de Trelydan, gen.", appears second on a grand jury of the county, 39 Eliz. John Gwyn, the second son of Evan Gwyn, was a captain in His Majesty's Guard. He wrote a memorial of his descent and services in the Royal cause, which he dedicated to Charles II. A copy of the same, edited by Sir Walter Scott, is in the library of the Powys-land Museum.

(2) HUMPHREY PRITCHARD was doubtless identical with the "Humfrid Richards de Trelydan, gen." on the grand jury, 14 Charles I, and "Humffrus ap Richard de Burgedinge, gen." on the same, 23 Charles I, 1648. He was the son of Richard ap Howel ("Ricus Howells de Trelydan, gen.", grand jury, 43 Eliz.) ap Humphrey, descended from Sir Griffith Vaughan, Knt. Banneret of Garth, Trelydan, etc., by Jane, daughter of Thomas Mytton of Pont ys Cowrid (*Mont. Coll.*, vol. iv, p. 284, *n.* 2). "Humffrey Prichard of Trelydan, gent." was on the grand jury in 1654.

(3) WILL. PRYCE.—"Willi'ms Price de Kyffronydd, gen.", occurs on a county jury list in 1648. He was the son of Oliver Price of the same place, by Jane, daughter of George Juckes of Buttington. By his marriage with Margaret, daughter of John Bishop of Kerry, he had Arthur, John, Ales, and Mary (*Mont. Coll.*, vol. vii, p. 182).

(4) REES MORGAN served as deputy sheriff to John Blayney of Gregynog in 1642, and in the same capacity to Sir John Whittewronge, Bart., Sheriff of the County in 1665, and was bailiff of Montgomery 16 Charles II, 1664.

(5) HUMPHREY ? BOWEN or BEVAN.

(6) WILLIAM KYFFIN was of Bodvach. He was bailiff of Llanvyllin, 14 Charles I, and a magistrate for the county in 1648.

(7) JAMES MYTTON.—"Jacobus Mytton, ar." appears on the roll of county magistrates in 1650. Probably of Pontyscowrydd.

(8) GABRIEL WYNNE of Dolarddyn was a magistrate for the county in 1648. By his wife, Anne, sister of Lloyd Piers of Maesmawr, and daughter of Edward Piers, by Elizabeth, daughter and heiress of Griffith Lloyd of Maesmawr, Trawscoed, etc., he had John Wynne of Dolarddyn.

(9) "THOMAS EDWARDS de Hendrehen, gen." appears on a county jury list in 1648. He was of the Tribe of Brochwel, Prince of Powys. He married a daughter of Richard Mytton, son of John Mytton, probably of Pontyscowridd. His father, "Edrus ap Thomas de Hendreheani, gen.", 10 James I, and his grandfather, "Thomas ap John ap Mores de Hendre Heani, gen.", 38 Eliz., appear on county grand juries. Thomas had a son Eubulus Edwards of Hendrehene.

(10) EDMOND (?) LLOYD of Sylvain, Deputy Sheriff to Lloyd Piers of Maesmawr, Guilsfield, in 1650, was the son of "Thomas Lloyd de

Sylvayne, gen.", on county grand jury, 28 Eliz., who also occurs on the 41 Eliz. as "Thomas Lloyd ap Edmund de Sylvaine, gen." Edmund was a nephew of Griffith Lloyd ap Edmund of Maesmawr, sheriff in 1581, descended from Cadwaladr, second son of Sir Griffith Vaughan of Garth (*Mont. Coll.*, vol. vii, p. 189).

(11) Richard Owens.—"Ric'us Owens de Rhiewsaison, ar." occurs as a county magistrate on the roll 23 Charles I, 1648, and as a juror in 1650.

(12) David Powell of Maesmawr, was sheriff of the county in 1662.

(13) Rendall, or Rondle, Owen was the second son of Maurice Owen of Rhiewsaison, in the parish of Llanbrynmair.

(14) Richard Owen.—"Ric'us Owen de Broniarth, gen.", occurs on a jury list in 1650.

(15) Charles Lloyd.—"Carolus Lloyd de Garth, ar.", appears on the roll of county magistrates in 1648. The Garth referred to is Moel-y-Garth, in the parish of Guilsfield. He was the son of David Lloyd of Hope and Welshpool, J.P. in 41 Eliz. to 3 James I, whose name then disappears from the roll. According to Burke's *Dormant Baronetage*, David was the son of Humphrey Lloyd of Leighton, first sheriff of Montgomeryshire in 1541, and living in 1561. Although probably of the Leighton family, one or two generations must have been omitted. As Charles Lloyd was created a baronet on 10th May 1661, his father David was probably a son of Oliver Lloyd of Leighton, fifth son of Humphrey, the sheriff. This view is strengthened by the fact that David is found frequently acting in a magisterial capacity with Charles Lloyd of Leighton, his supposed brother, and the youngest son of Oliver Lloyd of Leighton.

(16) Edward Wynne was probably of Eunant in the parish of Llanwddyn. On a jury for the Hundred of Llanvyllyn at the Assizes 1638, 14 Charles I, he appears as "Ed'rus Wynne de Llanwothyn, gener." He was the son of Rhys Wynn of Eunant, by Jane, daughter of Howel Vaughan of Coed Talog, ap Howel Vaughan of Llwydiarth. His grandfather "Edwardus ap John ap David Vaughan de Llanwthin, gen'os.", was on a jury 27 Eliz., and as "Edward Wyn de Llanvthyn, gen." 30 Eliz.

(17) (Brochwel?) Griffiths was of Broniarth. R. (Richard?) Griffiths was of Sutton, near Montgomery. He and his son, Ro. ("Robert Griffiths de Sutton, ar.") were both magistrates for the county on the assize roll of 1650. The father, Richard Griffiths, appears on the roll 16 James I.

(18) Thomas Rogers was probably of Varchoel, Guilsfield. Either he or his father, of the same name, was deputy-sheriff in 1632 to Sir John Hayward, knight, to whom he was also chief steward for his lordship of Strata Marcella. "Thomas Rogers de Varchoel, gen.", on the grand jury 16 James I, was the son of Thomas ap Roger of Burgedin.

(19) JOHN WYNNE.—"Joh'is Wynne de Gilfield, gen." (*Mont. Coll.*, vol. vii, pp. 190-191), was the second son of Edward Wynne of Garth, in the parish of Guilsfield. He was a captain in the army, as well as a physician, and occurs in 1650, "when he is said to have been aged 51 years or thereabouts" when examined as to the death of Edward Gough of Trymyneck. His elder brother, Thomas Wynne of Garth, was on the grand jury 8 Charles I. Dorothy, daughter and heiress of Brochwel Wynne, third in descent from Thomas, conveyed the Garth estates by marriage to Richard Mytton of Pontyscowridd, now represented by Captain Mytton of Garth. The Wynnes of Garth were descended from Reginald, the youngest son; the Lloyds of Maesmawr from Cadwalader, the second son; and the Lloyds of Marrington from David Lloyd of Leighton, the eldest son of Sir Griffith Vaughan, Knight Banneret, of Garth.

(20) RICHARD PRYCE.—We find Richard Pryce of "Aberbechan" and Gogerddan acting as a magistrate in 1649; but this Richard Pryce may possibly be of Gunley, and the sheriff for the county in 1651. W. V. LL.

The letter to the Speaker bears internal evidence that it was written after the siege of Chester, stating it [the county] was "exhausted by the great forces led to and fro through by our *late* king towardes relief of Chester."

It claims for the county that, instead of being devoted to the king, it "opened a door to your forces under the command of Sir Thomas Middleton to enter into North Wales, mayntayning them in it against all the forces of the neighbouring counties round about."

It ingeniously excuses itself for joining in a petition with the rest of the counties of North Wales, as an Act for a composition of all crimes ("although conscious to themselves of none"), and humbly beseeches that their "knowne affection and sufferings may not (as forgotten) be cast into the same balance which shewed little or no affection at all for the publique." It also prays that being now in a capacity to distinguish between friends and foes, "yo. hon. would give in testimony of our fidelity." It draws a contrast between its services and those of the other counties in Wales, and yet shews that it bore a heavier burden, viz., £6,000 per mensem, —more than double the rate of Denbighshire (a richer

countie than it) and increased to £9,000 per mensem. These charges, at the rate of £72,000 and £108,000 per annum respectively, must have been a severe strain upon the resources of the county. It also shews, that it was lying open to rapine and spoil during the siege of Chester, and until the other five counties of North Wales were totally subdued to the obedience of Parliament. This implies that its services were used for the subjugation of other parts of North Wales.

It appears a very ingeniously drawn document, shewing in graphic terms the troubles and burdens which the county had passed through, and the somewhat new plea for its being considered as having been on the side of the Parliament rather than of the King—the military rigour with which it was treated by Prince Rupert in 1644 (see *Mont. Coll.*, xiv, p. 299), when the Prince threatened, if the contributions which they were "so deficient" in making were not duly made, "to quarter some troopes of horse upon the countie."

These documents pourtray vividly the fearful state of oppression and misery to which the Civil War reduced this county, in common with the country generally. The annals of the Parliamentary contest in the reign of Charles the First, and for some years subsequently, detailing as they do the countless evils of oppression, plunder, and disunion, induce us to prize our happy lot in times of tranquillity and prosperity, under the rule of a just, wise, and popular monarch.

M. C. J.
G. S.

MONTGOMERY CASTLE.

THE DEMOLITION THEREOF.

In Rev. George Sandford's paper upon Montgomery Castle (vol. x, p. 115) he refers to the demolition of the same. The following extracts from the *Calendar of State Papers, Domestic Series,* 1649-50, indicate the causes which moved the authorities to take steps to raze the building, and as the time when the *sacrilegious* act took place can be approximated by internal evidence from these extracts, the writer thought they might be deemed worthy of being preserved in the pages of the *Montgomeryshire Collections,* inasmuch as they will be useful to the future compiler of the history of the Castle. They, moreover, give a somewhat different version of the reason of the demolition to that given by Mr. Sandford. I fear it was taken down to prevent the Royalists getting it, and apparently with Lord Herbert's consent; but it is probable, he, being a *recusant,* was not in a position to say what he liked, and his petition to have it demolished may have been sent in from motives of a politic nature.

The Committee treated him very shabbily, when they, instead of paying him the admitted damages, £4,000, only wrote off, as it were, their claim against Lord Herbert, cancelling the balance.

26 March 1649.—"Council of State to the Lord-General. Montgomery and Hawarden Castles in Flintshire, may prove dangerous to the Commonwealth, if surprised by the enemy, in causing a division of our forces for their reducement, besides the expense of blood and treasure. We desire you to take care that they be kept from surprise." (P. 53.)

10th April 1649.—"Col. Jones to write to the Committee of

County Mongomery to secure the Castle there, and to report its state to the House." (P. 62.)

11 June 1649.—" Order in Parliament.—Upon the report of Col. Jones, from the Council of State, as to Montgomery Castle, and the petition of Lord Herbert of Cherbury, with a certificate from the Committee of Sequestrations, County Montgomery, and another from Sir Thomas Middleton—' that the Castle be demolished, and that the Council of State take care that the same is effectually done. *Order*—that Lord Herbert of Cherbury have reparation in respect of the said Castle, out of the second payment of his fine for delinquency. *Order*—that the Council of State consider the charge of demolishing the said Castle, and what damage Lord Herbert will receive thereby, and take care for the disposition of the materials towards defraying such charge, and that the Committee of Goldsmith's Hall consider what is further to be allowed to to Lord Herbert, and allow the same out of the second payment for delinquency, which in the meantime has been respited.' " (P. 167.)

16 June 1649.—" Council of State to Evan Lloyd, Sheriff of Montgomeryshire, Colonel Hugh Price, and Richard Griffith. ' In pursuance of an Order of Parliament, we have sent you a commission for demolishing Montgomery Castle, and as the House requires us to certify what is fit to be allowed to Lord Herbert for damages, and we, at this distance, cannot do so from our own knowledge, we desire you to send us your opinion.' " (P. 171.)

19 June 1649.—" Warrant issued by the Council of State and Admiralty Committee, etc., to Evan Lloyd, Sheriff of co. Montgomery, Col. Hugh Price, Capt. Rich. Price, and Richard Griffith, to demolish totally Montgomery Castle, improving the materials, and keeping an account thereof, to defray the charges of demolishing, and pay the damages to Lord Herbert." (P. 536.)

20th Sept. 1649.—" The gentlemen who were ordered to see to the demolishing of Montgomery Castle, to examine the demands of Capt. Edward Alleyn, contained in a petition concerning alleged disbursements for discharging soldiers of the garrison, without which the Castle could not have been demolished, as also to give him due satisfaction out of the materials of the Castle, and charge the same upon the account for disgarrisonising and demolishing it."

19 January 1650.—"To write to the Committee of Goldsmith's Hall. That in pursuance of the Order of Parliament of 11 June 1649, Council gave orders to demolish Montgomery Castle, and

improve the materials, and to certify what damage Lord Herbert had received thereby, which was certified at £4,000. That as the House ordered the Council to order what they think fit to be allowed to Lord Herbert, out of the second payment of his fine for delinquency, which meantime was respited, Council think the Committee should allow him the £1,611 10*s.* 0*d.* still unpaid of his fine." (P. 487.)

E. R. Morris.

MISCELLANEA.

(*Continued from Vol.* xv, *page* 422.)

XCII.

The Griffith Family of Brongain.

In the *Montgomeryshire Collections*, vol. ii, p. 383, etc., is a pedigree of the family of Griffith of Brongain; and on page 385 there is mention of Walter Griffith, R.N., of Brongain, who took the name of Booth on succeeding to the Twemlow Hall estate in Cheshire in 1792, and died in 1810 at sixty. It is then stated, "dying without issue, Brongain passed, under the will of Walter Griffith [his grandfather], to Lucy Gough, who is said to have been a daughter of Mary [wife of Humphrey] Lloyd of Llanerchrochwell [and daughter of Walter Griffith the grandfather] and was shortly afterwards sold." In my Cheshire collections I have a copy of the will of Captain Walter [Griffith] Booth dated 18 Nov. 1808, which hardly agrees with the above statement. The following is an abstract of the part relating to his Welsh property, in which his sister and other relatives not given in the pedigree above referred to are mentioned.

"I leave my cousin Edward Lloyd, £50; to his sister, Mary Williams of Ciele, in the island of Anglesey, also my cousin, £50; to Mrs. Lucy Gough of the Blue Coat School, Shrewsbury, formerly Lucy Griffith, my cousin, £50; to my sister, Catherine Ellis, late Catherine Griffith, I leave my Brongain estate, which I paid for by paying off a mortgage on it of £3,600; I also leave her sole heiress of all my other moneys and properties of every kind, and I appoint her sole executrix. If my said sister dies without children, my will is that my Brongain estate should go at her death to the second son of

my late half brother, whose name, I believe, is Walter; and if he dies without children, I leave it to his sister, whose name, I believe, is Catherine; but all this is if my sister, Catherine Ellis, should die without children. If she has sons, I leave it after her death to her sons in tail, and if she has none, to her daughters in the same regular succession. To my sister's two daughters, £200 each; and I give the two younger children of Caerrhun the like sum each; and I repeat it again that I leave my sister, Catherine Ellis, sole heiress of all my property of every description; and I will that all the other parts of this my Will are strictly complied with. Signed and sealed at Tremlow Hall, 18 Nov. 1808."

This will was proved at London 13th April 1810, by the oath of Catherine Ellis, wife of Thomas Ellis, Esq., the sister, sole executrix named in the said will.

Pensarn, Abergele, N. Wales. J. P. Earwaker.

XCIII.

Herbertiana.[1]

Extracts from Evelyn's Diary :—

(Vol. i, p. 242.)—"1650. January 1.—Dined at Lady Herbert's, wife of Sir Edward Herbert, afterwards Lord Keeper."

(*Ibid.*, p. 248.)—"1650. September 1.—My Lady Herbert invited me to dinner; Paris, indeed all France, being full of loyall fugitives."

(*Ibid.*, p. 262.)—"1652. March 6.—Sir Henry Herbert presented me with his brother, my Lord Cherburie's book, *De Veritate*."

(*Ibid.*, p. 372.)—"1665. February 8.—I dined at Sir Henry Herbert's, Master of the Revells."

(*Ibid.*, p. 629.)—"1686. May 27.—The new very young Lord Chief Justice Herbert declar'd on the Bench that the Government of England was entirely in the King; that the Crown was absolute; that penal laws were powers lodged in the Crown to enable the King to force the execution of the laws, but were not bars to bind the King's power; that he could pardon all offences against the law and forgive the penalties, and why could he not dispense with them? by which the test was abolished. Every one was astonished.

[1] Continued from *Mont. Coll.*, vol. xi, p. 372.

Great jealousy as to what would be the end of these proceedings."

(*Ibid.*)—"July 14.—Was sealed at our office the constitution of certaine Commissioners to take upon them the full power of all ecclesiastical affairs in an unlimited manner, or rather greater than the late High Commissioners' Court, abrogated by Parliament, for it had not onely faculty to inspect and visit all bishops' dioceses, but to change what laws and statutes they should think fit to alter among the colledges, though founded by private men; to punish, alter, suspend, fine, etc., give oathes and call witnesses. The main drift was to suppresse zealous preachers. In it was the whole power of a Vicar General. Note the consequences! Of the clergy the Commissioners were the Archbishop of Canterbury [Sancroft], Bishops of Durham [Crew], and Rochester [Sprat]; of the temporal, the Lord Treasurer, the Lord Chancellor [Jefferies], who alone was ever to be of the quorum, the Chief Justice [Herbert], and Lord President [Earl of Sunderland]."

(*Ibid.*, p. 644.)—"1687. December 20.—I went with my Lord Chief Justice Herbert to see his house at Walton-on-Thames.[1] It is a barren place. To a very ordinary house he has built a very handsome library, design'd more building to it than the place deserved in my opinion. He desired my advice as to laying out his gardens."

(Vol ii.)—"1689. April 26.—A fight by Admiral Herbert with the French, he imprudently setting on them in a creek as they were landing men in Ireland, by which we came off with great slaughter and little honour, so strangely negligent and remiss were we in preparing a timely and sufficient fleet."

(*Ibid.*, p. 26.)—"Mr. Herbert, nephew to Lord Herbert and cousin-german to my deceased nephew."—

XCIV.

Strange Phenomenon in Montgomeryshire.

"1694. April 22.—A fiery exhalation rising out of the sea opened itselfe in Montgomeryshire a furlong broad and many miles in length, burning all straw, hay, thatch, and grass, but

[1] "This is a mistake. The house was Oatsland, in Weybridge. He followed the fortunes of King James, who gave him his great seal. He was attainted, and Oatsland given to his brother, Admiral Herbert. He published an apology for the judgment he had given in favour of the king's dispensing powers, which was answered by Mr. Atwood and Sir Robert Atkins.—Manning and Bray's *History of Surrey*, ii, 786."

doing no harm to trees, timber, or any solid things, onely firing barns or thatched houses. It left such a taint on the grasse as to kill all the cattle that eate of it. I saw the attestations in the hands of the sufferers. It lasted many moneths."—(*Memoirs Illustrative of the Writings of John Evelyn, F.R.S., comprising his Diary from* 1641 *to* 1715. 2nd ed., 1819.)

XCV.

Letter to the Lord-Lieutenant on the Landing of the Pretender.

(From the original MS. at Walcot.)

After our very hearty commendations to your lordship—Whereas the eldest son of the Pretender hath presumed, in open violation of the laws, to land in the north-west part of Scotland, and has assembled a considerable number of traiterous and rebellious persons in arms, who have set up a standard in the name of the Pretender, and in an audacious manner have resisted and attacked some of His Majesty's forces, and are now advancing further in that part of His Majesty's Kingdom of Great Britain; and there is the greatest reason to apprehend that these wicked attempts have been encouraged, and may be supported, by a foreign force.—And whereas, by an Act of Parliament, made in the thirteenth and fourteenth years of the reign of the late King Charles the Second, entitled "An Act for ordering the forces in the several countys of this kingdom, for the better securing the peace of the kingdom", the respective lieutenants for the several and respective countys, citys, and places in England, Dominion of Wales, or town of Berwick-upon-Tweed, or any two or more of their deputys, were enabled and authorised from time to time, by warrant under their hands and seals, to employ such person or persons as they should think fit, of which a commissioned officer and the constable, or his deputy or the tythingman, or in the absence of the constable and his deputy and tythingman, some other person bearing office within the parish where the search should be, were to be two; and in case of a peer, in the presence of the lieutenant, or one of the deputy-lieutenants, to search for and seize all arms in the custody or possession of any person or persons whom the said lieutenant, or any two or more of his deputys should judge dangerous to the peace of the kingdom, and to secure such arms for the purpose in the said Act directed, at the times and in the manner therein

directed.—We do, therefore, in His Majesty's name, and by his express command, hereby pray and require your lordship forthwith to cause all arms belonging to *Papists, non-jurors, or other persons that shall be judged dangerous to the peace of the kingdom* within your lieutenancy, to be seized and secured according to the said Act, and encourage as much as in you lyes the seizure thereof. And of your proceedings herein, your lordship is desired to return an exact account to this board. And so we bid your lordship very heartily farewell.

From the Council Chamber at Kensington, the 5th day of September, 1745 :—

Your lordship's loving friends,

Hardwick, C.	Dorset, P.
Pembroke.	Granville.
Will. Yonge.	T. Winnington.

To our very good Lord George, Earl of Cholmondeley, Lord Lieutenant of the county of Montgomery.

(Endorsed) On His Majesty's Service.
To the Right Honble. the Earl of Cholmondeley, Lord Lieutenant of the County of Montgomery.

XCVI.

17 June 1882. Mrs. Mary Jane Lovell. Licence that she may take the surname of Pugh before that of Lovell, and that her issue may take and use the surname of Pugh before that of Lovell, and bear the arms of Pugh quarterly with those of Lovell.

[Seal.] [Royal Sign Manual.] Victoria Reg.

[Royal Arms.]—Victoria, by the Grace of God of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland Queen, Defender of the Faith: To our right trusty and right entirely beloved cousin Henry Duke of Norfolk, Earl Marshal, and our Hereditary Marshal of England greeting! Whereas, Mary Jane Lovell of Llanerchydol, in the parish of Welshpool, in the county of Montgomery, the widow and relict of Peter Audley Lovell, late of Cole Park, in the county of Wilts, Esq., the younger of the two daughters of David Pugh, late of Llanerchydol, aforesaid, Esq., in the commission of the peace, and deputy-lieutenant for the

said county of Montgomery, sometime Major of the Montgomeryshire Yeomanry Cavalry, Recorder of Welshpool, and representative in Parliament for the Montgomeryshire Boroughs, and sister and co-heir of CHARLES VAUGHAN PUGH, Esq., sometime captain in our 90th Regiment of Foot, and a deputy-lieutenant for the said county of Montgomery, all deceased, hath, by her petition, humbly represented unto us that the Petitioner's father, the said David Pugh, in and by his last will dated the 11th day of July 1856, after making certain specific bequests of personalty, and directions for the administration of his real estate, in the event of his being succeeded by his then elder surviving son and heir, David Pugh, which event did not happen, gave to certain trustees, therein named, all his real estates (subject to and charged with so much of his debts and legacies bequeathed, which his personal estate might be insufficient to answer) to the use of Anne his wife (the Petitioner's mother), for her life, with remainder to the uses of a settlement dated on or about the 18th day of August 1847, which settlement is in the said will more particularly recited, under which subject to a life estate to the said David Pugh, the petitioner's eldest brother, with remainder under a discretionary trust for the benefit of the said Charles Vaughan Pugh and his issue, failing which with remainder to John Cadwallader Pugh, formerly a lieutenant in the First or Royal Regiment of Foot, the youngest brother of the petitioner, with remainder to the petitioner's sister, Margaret Anne Johnson, wife of John Samuel Willes Johnson, esquire, a captain in the Royal Navy, for life, with the remainder to the petitioner for life, with other remainders over. That in the said will is contained the following clause :—" Provided always and I hereby declare and direct, that in case any person or persons shall succeed to my estates under the limitations of this my will, hereinbefore contained or referred to, who shall not bear the name and arms of PUGH, or being a female shall during the period or time of enjoying such estates in possession by marriage or otherwise, change or lose the name of PUGH, such person or persons shall within one year of the period of his her or their succeeding to such estates, or changing or losing the said name of PUGH, as the case may be, apply for and obtain the requisite Licence or Letters Patent and authority for assuming, using, and bearing such my name and also my Arms, if he, she, or they shall not at the time be entitled to use and bear such Arms", with a clause of forfeiture in the event of non-compliance. That the said testator died on the twentieth day of April, 1861, and his will, with three

codicils, was duly proved in the Prerogative Court of Canterbury on the second day of July following. That the petitioner's brothers, David Pugh and John Cadwallader Pugh both predeceased their father unmarried. That the petitioner's mother, the said Anne Pugh, died on the eighth day of October 1863; that on the decease of the said Anne Pugh a suit was instituted in Chancery for the administration of the testator's estate, in which suit an order was made, dated the nineteenth day of March 1878, under which the rights and interests of the petitioner's sister, the said Margaret Anne Johnson, as next in remainder to her brother, the said Charles Vaughan Pugh, who died without issue on the twenty-eighth day of December 1874, were settled and determined; and by virtue of the said will or order she became entitled as tenant for life to the said devised estates; and by Royal Licence, bearing date the twenty-second day of February 1879, was authorized to take and use the surname of PUGH, in addition to and before that of JOHNSON, and to bear the Arms of PUGH, and thereupon became Margaret Anne Pugh-Johnson. That the said Margaret Anne Pugh-Johnson departed this life on or about the twenty-fifth day of November last past, whereupon the petitioner as next tenant for life in remainder entered into possession of the rents and profits of the said devised estates, and is desirous of strictly complying with the before recited condition.

The petitioner therefore most humbly prays our Royal Licence and Authority that she may take and use the surname of PUGH in addition to and before that of LOVELL, and bear the Arms of PUGH, and that her issue may take the surname of PUGH before that of LOVELL and bear the Arms of PUGH, quarterly with those of LOVELL.

KNOW YE, that WE of Our Princely Grace and Special Favour, have given and granted, and do by these presents give and grant unto her, the said Mary Jane Lovell, Our Royal Licence and Authority, that she may take and use the surname of PUGH in addition to and before that of LOVELL, and bear the Arms of PUGH; and that her issue may take the surname of PUGH before that of LOVELL, and bear the Arms of PUGH quarterly with those of LOVELL, the said Arms being first duly exemplified according to the laws of Arms and recorded in Our College of Arms, otherwise this Our Licence and Permission to be void and of none effect. Our will and pleasure, therefore, is that you Henry Duke of Norfolk, to whom the cognizance of matters of this nature doth properly belong, do require and command that this Our concession and declaration be recorded in Our College of Arms to the end that Our officers

of Arms and all others upon occasion may take full notice and have knowledge thereof.

And for so doing this shall be your warrant.

Given at Our Court at Saint James's, the seventeenth day of June 1882, in the forty-fifth year of Our reign.

By Her Majesty's command,
W. V. HARCOURT.

Recorded in the College of Arms, London, pursuant to a warrant from the Earl Marshal of England.

H. MURRAY LANE, *Chester* and Registrar.

XCVII.

16 AUGUST 1882. GRANT AND CONFIRMATION OF THE ARMS OF LOVELL to Mrs. Mary Jane Pugh-Lovell, Relict of Peter Audley Lovell, Esq., to be placed on any Monument or otherwise to the Memory of her late Husband.

"To all and singular to whom these presents shall come Sir Albert William Woods, Knight, Garter Principal King of Arms, and George Edward Cokayne, Esquire, Norroy King of Arms of the North parts of England from the river Trent Northwards, send greeting. Whereas, MARY JANE LOVELL, now MARY JANE PUGH-LOVELL, of Llanerchydol, in the parish of Welshpool, in the County of Montgomery, widow and relict of Peter Audley Lovell, late of Cole Park, in the County of Wilts, Esquire, deceased, hath represented to the Most Noble Henry Duke of Norfolk, Earl Marshal and Hereditary Marshal of England, that on the examination of the Records of the College of Arms, she finds that the Armorial bearings hitherto used by the family of her late husband, the said Peter Audley Lovell, have not been duly established, as appertaining to them; and it being necessary that a due record thereof should be made, she therefore requested the favour of His Grace's Warrant, for our granting and confirming the same, with such variations as may be deemed necessary, to be placed on a Monument or otherwise to his memory, to be borne by her as his Widow, and by his descendants according to the Laws of Arms: And forasmuch as the said Earl Marshal did by warrant under his hand and seal, bearing date the thirtieth day of June last, authorize and

direct us to grant and confirm such Armorial Ensigns accordingly, KNOW YE, therefore, that we the said Garter and Norroy, in pursuance of his Grace's warrant, and by virtue of the Letters Patent of our several offices, to each of us respectively granted, do, by these presents, grant and confirm the Arms following for LOVELL; that is to say, *Argent, on a chevron, azure, between three Squirrels sejant gules, each cracking a nut proper, a Garb all between two Flanches of the second.* And for the Crest—*On a wreath of the colours, A Garb fessewise or, thereon a Squirrel sejant gules, cracking a nut proper,* as the same are in the margin hereof more plainly depicted, to be placed on a monument or otherwise, to the memory of the said Peter Audley Lovell, and to be borne by her the said Mary Jane Pugh-Lovell as his widow, and by his descendants, the whole with due and proper differences according to the Laws of Arms. In witness whereof, We, the said Garter and Norroy Kings of Arms, have to these presents subscribed our names and affixed the seals of our several offices, this sixteenth day of August, in the forty-sixth year of the Reign of our Sovereign Lady Victoria, by the Grace of God of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland Queen, Defender of the Faith, etc., and in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and eighty-two.

ALBERT W. WOODS (L.S.), *Garter.*
G. E. COKAYNE (L.S.), *Norroy.*

Recorded in the College of Arms, London.
H. MURRAY LANE, *Chester Herald,* Registrar.

XCVIII.

21 AUG. 1882. GRANT AND EXEMPLIFICATION OF THE ARMS OF PUGH to Mrs. Mary Jane Pugh-Lovell. Also Grant and Exemplification of Arms of Lovell and Pugh quartered, and Crests for Lovell and Pugh, to her only son P. A. D. A. Pugh-Lovell and his issue.

To all and singular to whom these presents shall come. Sir Albert William Woods, Knight, Garter principal King of Arms, and George Edward Cokayne, Esquire, Norroy King of Arms of the north parts of England from the River Trent, northwards, send greeting. Whereas Her Majesty, by

warrant under Her Royal Signet and Sign Manual, bearing date the 17th day of June last, signified unto the Most Noble Henry Duke of Norfolk, Earl Marshal and Hereditary Marshal of England, that she had been graciously pleased to give and grant unto MARY JANE LOVELL of Llanerchydol, in the parish of Welshpool, in the county of Montgomery, the widow and relict of PETER AUDLEY LOVELL, late of Cole Park, in the county of Wilts, Esquire, the younger of the two daughters of DAVID PUGH, late of Llanerchydol aforesaid, Esquire, in the Commission of the Peace and Deputy-Lieutenant for the said county of Montgomery, sometime Major of the Montgomeryshire Yeomanry Cavalry, Recorder of Welshpool, and Representative in Parliament for the Montgomeryshire Boroughs, and sister and co-heir of CHARLES VAUGHAN PUGH, esquire, sometime Captain in the 90th Regiment of Foot, and a Deputy-Lieutenant for the said county of Montgomery, all deceased, Her Royal licence and authority, that she may, in compliance with a clause contained in the last Will and Testament of her father, the said David Pugh, deceased, take and use the surname of PUGH, in addition to and before that of LOVELL, and bear the arms of PUGH quarterly with those of Lovell, such Arms being first duly exemplified according to the laws of Arms, and recorded in the College of Arms, otherwise the said Royal Licence and permission to be void and of none effect. And forasmuch as the said Earl Marshal did by warrant, under his hand and seal, bearing date the first day of July following, authorize and direct us to grant and exemplify such Arms accordingly, KNOW YE, therefore, that we the said Garter and Norroy, in obedience to the Royal command, in pursuance of his Grace's Warrant, and by virtue of the Letters Patent of our several offices to each of us respectively granted, do by these presents grant and exemplify unto the said MARY JANE LOVELL, now MARY JANE PUGH-LOVELL, the Arms following for PUGH, that is to say, *Or, a lion passant guardant sable, holding in the dexter fore paw a fleur-de-lis, gules, a fleur-de-lis in base, also sable, a chief of the last, thereon two fleurs-de-lis of the first,* as the same are on the Escocheon of Pretence over the Arms of Lovell in the margin hereof more plainly depicted, to be borne and used by her the said MARY JANE PUGH-LOVELL. And by the authority aforesaid, we do further grant and exemplify the Arms following, that is to say, quarterly: First and fourth, LOVELL; second and third, the said Arms of PUGH, the crest of LOVELL, and the crest following for PUGH, that is to say, *On a wreath of the colours upon a rock proper a lion passant guardant sable seme-*

de-lis, and holding in the dexter fore paw a fleur-de-lis or, as the same are here depicted to be borne and used for ever hereafter by her only child, Peter Audley David Arthur Lovell, now Peter Audley David Arthur Pugh-Lovell, and his issue, pursuant to the tenor of the said Royal Warrant, and according to the Laws of Arms. In witness whereof, we the said Garter and Norroy Kings of Arms have to these presents subscribed our names and affixed the seals of our several offices, this twenty-first day of August, in the forty-sixth year of the reign of our Sovereign Lady Victoria, by the Grace of God of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland Queen, Defender of the Faith, etc., and in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and eighty-two.

Albert W. Woods (L.S), *Garter.*
G. E. Cokayne (L.S.), *Norroy.*

Recorded in the College of Arms, London,
H. Murray Lane, *Chester Herald,*
Registrar.

XCIX.

3 Jan. 1880. Grant and Assignment of Arms to Lewis Richard Price, Esq.

To all and singular to whom these presents shall come. Sir Albert William Woods, Knight, Garter Principal King of Arms, and Robert Laurie, Esquire, Clarenceux King of Arms of the south-east and west parts of England from the River Trent southwards, send greeting. Whereas, Lewis Richard Price of Marrington Hall, in the parish of Chirbury, and Brompton Hall, in the parish of Churchstoke, both in the county of Salop, Gentleman, son of Stafford Price of Hendon House, in the parish of Hendon, in the county of Middlesex, Gentleman, deceased, hath represented unto The Most Noble Henry Duke of Norfolk, Earl Marshal and Hereditary Marshal of England, that he is desirous of bearing Armorial Ensigns with unquestionable authority, and therefore requested the favour of his Grace's Warrant for our granting and assigning such Arms and Crest as may be proper to be borne by him and his descendants, and by the other descendants of his father, the said Stafford Price, deceased, according to the Laws of Arms. And, forasmuch as the said Earl Marshal did by his Warrant under his hand and seal, bearing date the twenty-seventh day of December last, authorize and direct us

to grant and assign such Armorial Ensigns accordingly, KNOW YE, THEREFORE, that we the said Garter and Clarenceux, in pursuance of his Grace's Warrant, and by virtue of the Letters Patent of our several offices to each of us respectively granted, do by these presents grant and assign unto the said LEWIS RICHARD PRICE the arms following, that is to say, *Quarterly nebule gules and ermine, in the first and fourth quarters a lion rampant reguardant argent, gorged with a collar sable, and in the second and third quarter an escallop between three boar's heads erased of the last.* And for the crest, *On a wreath of the colours, a demi lion erminois, holding between the paws an escallop sable, and transfixed through the mouth by a tilting spear palewise proper,* as the same are in the margin hereof more plainly depicted, to be borne and used for ever hereafter by him, the said LEWIS RICHARD PRICE and his descendants, and by the other descendants of his father, the said Stafford Price, deceased, with due and proper differences, according to the Laws of Arms. In witness whereof, we the said Garter and Clarenceux, Kings of Arms, have to these presents subscribed our names and fixed the seals of our several offices, this third day of January, in the forty-third year of the reign of our Sovereign Lady Victoria, by the Grace of God of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland Queen, Defender of the Faith, etc., and in the year of our Lord, one thousand eight hundred and eighty.

(Signed) ALBERT W. WOODS (L.S.), *Garter.*
ROBERT LAURIE (L.S.), *Clarenceux.*

Recorded in the College of Arms, London.
EDWARD BELLASIS, *Bluemantle,*
Deputy Registrar.

C.

7 JAN. 1880. LICENCE TO LEWIS RICHARD PRICE, GENT., on behalf of his sons and daughter, that they may take the Surname of Davies in addition to and after that of Price, and bear the Arms of Davies quarterly with those of Price.

VICTORIA R.—Victoria, by the Grace of God, of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland Queen, Defender of the Faith: To Our right trusty and right entirely beloved cousin Henry Duke of Norfolk, Earl Marshal, and Our Hereditary Marshall of England greeting. Whereas, Lewis Richard

Price of Marrington Hall, in the parish of Chirbury, in the county of Salop, and of Brompton Hall, in the parish of Churchstoke, in the counties of Salop and Montgomery, gentleman, fourth but only surviving son and heir of Stafford Price, late of Hendon House, in the parish of Hendon, in the county of Middlesex, gentleman, by Margaret his wife, daughter of William Davies, of Brompton Hall aforesaid, gentleman, all deceased, hath by his petition, on behalf of his sons, Stafford Davies Price, Hugh Arthur Lewis Price, Llewellyn Alberic Emilius Price, and his daughter Gwendoline Cholita Mary Sceynton Price, all minors, humbly represented unto Us, That the Petitioner, on the death of his cousin, John Davies of Marrington Hall aforesaid, which happened on or about the 28th day of September 1877, succeeded to certain estates in the said counties of Salop and Montgomery, under a deed of settlement bearing date the 20th day of April 1858, executed by his maternal uncle, Richard John Davies, clerk, and rector of Aberhafesp, in the said county of Montgomery, and certain other estates devised by his will, bearing date the 7th day of October 1861, for life, with remainder to his first and other sons in tail male. That the Petitioner is the junior co-representative of his cousin, the said John Davies, and also of his uncle, the said Richard John Davies, who departed this life on or about the 5th day of May 1864, and is desirous, out of respect to the memory of, and in deference to a wish expressed by his uncle, that the surname and arms of Davies should be perpetuated in his descendants. The Petitioner, therefore, most humbly prays Our royal licence and authority on behalf of his sons, the said Stafford Davies Price, Hugh Arthur Lewis Price, Llewellyn Alberic Emilius Price, and his daughter, Gwendoline Cholita Mary Sceynton Price, that they may henceforth take and use the surname of Davies in addition to and after that of Price; and that they may bear the arms of Davies quarterly with those of Price. Know ye that We, of Our princely grace and special favour, have given and granted, and do by these presents give and grant unto him, the said Lewis Richard Price, Our royal licence and authority on behalf of his sons, the said Stafford Davies Price, Hugh Arthur Lewis Price, Llewellyn Alberic Emilius Price, and his daughter, Gwendoline Cholita Mary Sceynton Price, that they may henceforth take and use the surname of Davies in addition to and after that of Price; and that they may bear the arms of Davies quarterly with those of Price, the said arms being first duly exemplified according to the laws of arms, and recorded in Our College of Arms, otherwise this Our licence and permis-

sion to be void and of none effect. Our will and pleasure, therefore, is that you, Henry Duke of Norfolk, to whom the cognizance of matters of this nature doth properly belong, do require and command that this, Our concession and declaration, be recorded in Our College of Arms, to the end that Our officers of arms and all others upon occasion may take full notice and have knowledge thereof. And for so doing this shall be your warrant.

Given at Our Court at St. James's, the 7th day of January 1880, in the 43rd year of Our reign.

By Her Majesty's command,

RIC. ASSHETON CROSS.

Recorded in the College of Arms, London, pursuant to a warrant from the Earl Marshal of England.

EDWARD BELLASIS (*Bluemantle*),
Deputy Registrar.

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8 FEB. 1880. GRANT AND EXEMPLIFICATION OF ARMS OF DAVIES to Stafford Davies Lewis Price-Davies Esq., and his Brothers and Sister, to be borne quarterly with those of Price.

To all and singular to whom these presents shall come, Sir Albert William Woods, Knight, Garter Principal King of Arms, and Robert Laurie, Esquire, Clarenceux King of Arms of the south east and west parts of England from the River Trent southwards, send greeting, Whereas Her Majesty by warrant under Her Royal Signet and Sign Manual, bearing date the seventh day of January last, signified unto the most Noble Henry Duke of Norfolk, Earl Marshal and Hereditary Marshal of England, that She had been graciously pleased to give and grant to LEWIS RICHARD PRICE of Marrington Hall, in the parish of Chirbury in the county of Salop, and of Brompton Hall in the parish of Churchstoke in the counties of Salop and Montgomery, gentleman, fourth but only surviving son and heir of Stafford Price, late of Hendon House in the parish of Hendon in the County of Middlesex, gentleman, by Margaret his wife, daughter of William Davies of Brompton Hall aforesaid, gentleman, all deceased, Her Royal Licence and Authority on behalf of his sons STAFFORD DAVIES PRICE, HUGH ARTHUR LEWIS PRICE, LLEWELLYN ALBERIC EMILIUS PRICE, and his daughter GWENDOLINE CHOLITA MARY SCEYNTON PRICE, all minors, that

they may henceforth take and use the surname of DAVIES in addition to and after that of PRICE, and that they may bear the arms of DAVIES quarterly with those of PRICE, such arms heing first duly exemplified according to the Laws of Arms and recorded in the College of Arms, otherwise the said Royal Licence and permission to be void and of none effect. And forasmuch as the said Earl Marshal did by warrant under his hand and seal, bearing date the twenty-first day of the same month, authorize and direct us to grant and exemplify such arms accordingly, KNOW YE THEREFORE that we, the said Garter and Clarenceux, in obedience to the Royal command, in pursuance of his Grace's warrant, and by virtue of the Letters Patent of our several offices to each of us respectively granted, do by these presents grant and exemplify unto the said Stafford Davies Price, now Stafford Davies Price-Davies, Hugh Arthur Lewis Price, now Hugh Arthur Lewis Price-Davies, Llewellyn Alberic Emilius Price, now Llewellyn Alberic Emilius Price-Davies, and Gwendoline Cholita Mary Sceynton Price, now Gwendoline Cholita Mary Sceynton Price-Davies, the arms following (that is to say), Quarterly, First and fourth *Gules on a bend argent a lion passant between two estoiles sable, in chief a lion's head erased of the second ducally crowned or,* for DAVIES, Second and third PRICE. And for the crest of DAVIES, *On a wreath of the colours, Upon a mount vert between two antlers or, a lion's head erased argent ducally crowned gules, and charged with an estoile, sable;* and the crest of PRICE; as the same are in the margin hereof more plainly depicted, to be borne and used for ever hereafter by them, the said Stafford Davies Price-Davies, Hugh Arthur Lewis Price-Davies, Llewellyn Alberic Emilius Price-Davies, and Gwendoline Cholita Mary Sceynton Price-Davies, pursuant to the tenor of the said Royal Warrant, and according to the laws of arms. In witness whereof we the said Garter and Clarenceux Kings of Arms have to these presents subscribed our names and affixed the seals of our several offices this twenty-eighth day of February, in the forty-third year of the reign of our Sovereign Lady Victoria, by the Grace of God of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland Queen, Defender of the Faith, etc., and in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and eighty.

(Signed) ALBERT W. WOODS (L.S.) *Garter,*
ROBERT LAURIE (L.S.) *Clarenceux.*

Recorded in the College of Arms, London.
EDWARD BELLASIS (*Bluemantle*),
Deputy Registrar.

"MONASTERY AND ABBOT OF MEIVOD."

In the *Journal of the Royal Historical and Archæological Association of Ireland*, vol. vi, no. 54, issued in September 1883, appears a paper on the "Celtic Races of Great and Lesser Britain", and we make the following extracts from pp. 105-107, which bear upon this district, and give some information about "The Monastery, and Sulien Abbot of Meivod", as well as other local personages, which we think it well to place before the readers of the *Montgomeryshire Collections*.

"Among the many persons of historic interest, either from their connection with the Early British Church or Kingdom, a few names are selected for notice from the Genealogical Table, No. III. Among these Maig Mygotwas, son of Cynan Garwyn, son of Caddell Deyrnloog, is reputed a bard and hermit in Cambrian hagiology, where little more is to found concerning him. He may be, perhaps, identified with a saint in Bretaigne Mieu, culted on the second day of November in the Breviary of the Diocese of Dol. While removing the high altar of the church of Coet Mieu, the Wood of Mieu, where his hermitage was, a small coffer was found, with the inscription, '*Reliquiæ Sancti Mioci.*' This shrine was replaced by Hector D'Ouvrier, bishop of Dol, and the Rev. John Collas, rector of Coet Mieu. There is another parish in the diocese of St. Brieux, St. Mieu or Plu Mieu; and a third parish in the diocese of Quimper Ploezmiec."—Lobineau, *Vies des Saintes de Bretaigne*, vol. i, p. 257.

"Magonius Mawon, Mavanus or Mien, sometime styled Conard Meen, son of Cynan Garwyn, king of Powys, called in the lesson of the Breviary of St. Malo 'Gerascen', was born about the middle of the sixth century, A.D. 540. He was a pupil of St. Samson, with whom he went to Bretaigne, and subsequently founded the monastery of Gael, now called St. Meen's in the Diocese of St. Malo, nine leagues from Rennes, under the invocation of St. John the Baptist. St. Brendan of Clonfert is said to have been his guest for sometime, while he

was in Armorica. This is very doubtful, however, as Colgan, *AA. SS. Hib.* p. 414, identifies St. Meen with an Irish St. Moena, a disciple of St. Brendan, whose festival is February 26th, and quite a distinct personage from the Cambrian saint. St. Judicael, son of Howell III, king of Bretaigne, became his disciple A.D. 616, and St. Meen himself died the following year, 617, June 21. His name occurs in the English Litany of the seventh century. Albert le Grand gives 665 as the time of his obit, but that date probably refers to another Mawon, Maun, or Meen, son of his brother Brockmael, king of Powys, who granted Berriu, near Welshpool, Montgomery, to St. Beuno (*Cambro-British Saints*, p. 301). Maun was father of Ystyphan or Stephan, founder of Llanlystyphan, in Caermarthenshire." *Vide* Lobineau, vol. i, p. 30, in Butler's *Lives of the Saints*, etc.

"Ioava, Ieuava, or Ieuan, was also brother of Brockmael, son of Cynan Garwyn, a disciple of St. Paul de Leon, his cousin-german, not uncle, as Albert le Grand states; and Colgan, *AA. SS. Hib.*, confounding him, perhaps, with some earlier namesake, March 2, p. 441, absurdly styles him, "*Natione Hibernus*". He lived in the territory of Ack, and in Isle of Batzs, with his kinsman St. Paul, and when he retired from the See of Leon, his immediate successor was Ioava, who survived one year, and died March 2, A.D. 580.—Lobineau, vol. i, p. 177, Paris 1836. Ieuva, or Ieuan, with SS. Avran and Sannan, are patrons of Llantrisaint, in the hundred of Menai, Anglesey. St. Tysillio, son of Brockmael, was a distinguished writer and historian; he is supposed to have been the immediate successor of St. Asaph in the See of Llanelvy; he died May 1st, A.D. 596; his sister Ardun Ben Asgel, daughter of Pabo Post Prydain, was one of the wives of Brockmael of Powys. Tysillio, her son, is commemorated November 8th, and is believed to have been the author of *Brut Tysillio*, or History of Britain, amplified by Geoffrey of Monmouth. St. Tysillio died within the first quarter of the seventh century: his brother, Dinogad, fell at Catreath, at the Frith of Forth, N.B., A.D. 634.

"Sulien, son of Brockmael, was Abbot of Meivod in Montgomery. Much to the annoyance of his father, he became in early life a disciple of the Abbot or hermit Guimarch, or Gwyddvarch, who lived at Meivod, on the hill called Gallt yr Ancr; he concealed him for a while from his father's anger on Enes Sulien in the Menai Straits. To avoid the importunities of Hagarma, the widow of his brother Jacob, who had entertained an illicit passion for him, he escaped to Bre-

taigne, and became a recluse on the banks of the river Rance, near Aleth, whence he evangelized the natives, and entertained St. Samson, bishop of Dol. On the death of his sister-in-law, Hagarma, the monks of Meivod came over to Armorica to recall him to the government of their monastery: unwilling to return, he gave them for heir-looms his books of the Gospels and pastoral staff, to bring back to his native Cambria; soon after the departure of the monks of Meivod, he died of fever on the 8th of November, before the middle of the seventh century."—Lobineau, vol. i, p. 252.

"Among the other remarkable personages of the line of Brockmael Ysgathrog, was Novis, nineteenth bishop of the See of Llandaff, from the year 841 to 863. In the *Book of Llandaff*, p. 473, the following particulars are taken from a manuscript in the Bodleian Library. A jester came to the palace of the bishop Novis, and, standing before him, said, (punning on his name), 'Amen, dico vobis, pro nobis est sine robis.' To which the bishop answered, 'Amen dico vobis, sine robis ibis a nobis'; and the jester rejoined, 'Amen dico vobis, si nobis sit sine robis, a labris nobis dicentur scandala vobis'; which may be translated:—*Jester*—'I verily say unto you, I am without robes.' *Bishop*—'Verily I say unto you, you shall go from me without robes.' *Jester*—'Verily I say unto you, if I shall be without robes, from my lips reproachful things shall be said of you.' Bishop Novis was son of Rhodri Mawr, slain in Anglesey A.D. 787."

M. C. J.

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